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# BULLETIN

## A of the AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

JANUARY - 1949

NUMBER 112

*Symposium---Regional News*

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Oregon State Highway Commission photo

Scenic wonders will vie with famous iris plantings for attention when American Iris Society members trek to the Pacific Northwest for the 1949 Annual Meeting. An ambitious three-day program has been planned. Luncheon on the first day, Saturday, May 14, will be held in a wooded area above this beautiful South Falls in Silver Falls State Park, near Salem, Oregon. See page 39 for a complete announcement of Annual Meeting plans.



# Foreword

As this is written it is not possible to foretell exactly what action may be taken by our Board of Directors at the winter meeting with respect to changes in membership fees. Reference to the reports of the Treasurer and the Secretary of the Society in this issue will reveal that we are in a very sound condition financially. Operations of the past year, however, resulted in a small loss, and increased printing costs in 1949 will likely cause a greater loss unless our income is increased. Members' ballots thus far show more than a 90% favorable sentiment toward a small increase in dues if the Directors feel that it is necessary.

Quite likely Annual Membership will be fixed at \$3.50 per year. The Directors feel that many members are able and willing to contribute a little more annually to the welfare of the Society, and so Sustaining Membership will be set at \$5.00. Sustaining Membership carries no additional privileges; it simply indicates that the member wishes to pay somewhat more than the bare cost of his BULLETINS and thus to sustain useful activities of the Society in the fields of experiment, research and possibly special publications.

\* \* \*

Regional Vice-Presidents have co-operated exceedingly well in writing or securing for us stories of activities in their regions during 1948. We have presented these as feature articles rather than as "reports." Some were in the October BULLETIN; more are in this issue and there are still others to follow in April. In April, too, will come the list of 1948 Registrations, which was not quite ready when this issue went to press.

\* \* \*

The Christmas-New Year season brought so many friendly letters and greetings to the Nashville office that it would be quite impossible for us to answer all of them personally and still get out the BULLETINS. But please understand that they were deeply appreciated. And here's a wish for all of you that your 1949 irises will bloom bigger and better than ever!—*Sam Y. Caldwell.*

# Judges' Symposium of 1948

BY THE COMMITTEE ON AWARDS

Here again are the results of the AIS Judges' Symposium. This Ninth Symposium, conducted during the fall of 1948, gave the 365 judges of the society the opportunity of nominating their favorite hundred varieties. This annual "popularity contest" inaugurated by Kenneth D. Smith in 1940 has grown in popularity and interest each year until its "Hundred Favorites" is now considered the Social Register of Irisdom.

As the Symposium has continued year after year, procedural changes have been made from time to time in the method of translating the judges' classifications into numerical ratings and determinations of relative rank. It is significant, however, that none of these changes had much effect on the relative rank of the widely distributed varieties that are known and classified by practically all reporting judges. As popular new varieties have become better known they have advanced rapidly into the upper ranks—too rapidly for their own good, said some judges. As older varieties began to suffer by comparison with some of the newer introductions, they are retiring gracefully into the wings. To illustrate this point, the following table of the fifteen top ranking varieties for the past four years is presented.

TABLE I—THE FIRST FIFTEEN TOP RANKING VARIETIES

1945-1948 inclusive

	1945	1946	1947	1948
1	Great Lakes	Great Lakes	Ola Kala	Ola Kala
2	Elmohr	Ola Kala	Chivalry	Great Lakes
3	Daybreak	Elmohr	Great Lakes	Chivalry
4	Prairie Sunset	Chivalry	Helen McGregor	Bryce Canyon
5	Sable	Prairie Sunset	Blue Shimmer	Helen McGregor
6	Ola Kala	Blue Shimmer	Bryce Canyon	Blue Rhythm
7	Spun Gold	Tobacco Road	Elmohr	Sable
8	Wabash	Master Charles	Master Charles	Elmohr
9	Amigo	Sable	Azure Skies	Blue Shimmer
10	Chivalry	Bryce Canyon	Sable	Master Charles
11	Berkeley Gold	Berkeley Gold	Blue Valley	Wabash
12	Deep Velvet	Violet Symphony	Blue Rhythm	Lady Mohr
13	Blue Shimmer	Daybreak	Cascade Splendor	Berkeley Gold
14	Violet Symphony	Wabash	Berkeley Gold	Mulberry Rose
15	Tobacco Road	Azure Skies	Amandine	Azure Skies

It is important to note that although eight famous varieties, Ola Kala, Great Lakes, Chivalry, Sable, Elmohr, Blue Shimmer, Wabash and Berkeley Gold have ranked among the first fifteen of the past four symposia, a total of sixteen other varieties appeared one to three times among the ranking fifteen during this period. This fluidity of favoritism is as it should be for it proves that with irises, as with people, some popularity is solid and enduring while some is fickle and brief. It also proves that there is always room at the top.

After the preview of part of the Ninth Symposium Report, there is no point in delaying further the presentation of the complete report. Here are the “Hundred Favorite” irises of the United States and Canada, according to the considered opinions of 186 judges.

TABLE II—THE HUNDRED FAVORITES OF 1948

VARIETY		1948		
	1947 Rank	Times Rated	Total Points	Balanced Rating
1	Ola Kala '43 .....(1)	184	1759	95.09
2	Great Lakes '38.....(3)	186	1705	91.67
3	Chivalry '44 .....(2)	167	1531	87.00
4	Bryce Canyon '44 .....(6)	171	1546	86.77
5	Helen McGregor '46 .....(4)	163	1478	85.07
6	Blue Rhythm '45 .....(12)	169	1500	84.71
7	Sable '38 .....(10)	186	1570	84.41
8	Elmohr .....(7)	180	1506	82.32
9	Blue Shimmer '42 .....(5)	180	1499	81.94
10	Master Charles '43 .....(8)	167	1433	81.43
11	Wabash '36 .....(16)	186	1500	80.65
12	Lady Mohr '44 .....(18)	177	1450	79.94
13	Berkeley Gold '42 .....(14)	173	1409	78.60
14	Mulberry Rose '41 .....(17)	175	1384	76.75
15	Azure Skies '43 .....(9)	176	1384	76.53
16	Snow Flurry '39 .....(27)	179	1351	74.05
17	Amandine '46 .....(15)	124	1101	73.98
18	Amigo '34 .....(19)	179	1336	73.24
19	Los Angeles '27 .....(71)	183	1346	72.96
20	Prairie Sunset '39 .....(35)	184	1324	71.57
21	Cascade Splendor '45 .....(13)	149	1182	71.44
22	Pink Cameo '46 .....(45)	150	1182	71.18
23	Ranger '44 .....(24)	164	1239	71.10
24	Tiffanja '42 .....(30)	166	1236	70.46



# VARIETY

1948

		1947 Rank	Times Rated	Total Points	Balanced Rating
25	The Admiral '41	(31)	169	1241	70.08
26	New Snow '46	(21)	127	1057	70.03
27	Lady Boscawen '46	(23)	141	1123	70.02
28	Grand Canyon '41	(47)	173	1254	69.96
29	Solid Mahogany '44	(32)	162	1210	69.87
30	Chantilly '45	(37)	157	1189	69.83
31	Casa Morena '43	(28)	165	1218	69.65
32	Dreamcastle '43	(59)	151	1160	69.60
33	Blue Valley '47	(11)	125	1038	69.43
34	Tobacco Road '42	(24)	174	1249	69.22
35	Katherine Fay '45	(20)	151	1137	68.22
36	Fair Elaine '38	(42)	177	1234	68.03
37	Garden Glory '43	(33)	147	1115	67.90
38	Rocket '45	(29)	114	1098	67.64
39	Black Forest '45	(22)	147	1101	67.05
40	Treasure Island '37		172	1197	66.97
41	Golden Fleece '40	(46)	163	1161	66.83
42	Spun Gold '40	(34)	178	1203	66.13
43	Cherie '47	(38)	130	1007	65.80
44	Moonlight Madonna '43	(41)	165	1134	64.85
45	Minnie Colquitt '42	(76)	155	1092	64.58
46	Extravaganza '44	(36)	139	1025	64.43
47	Violet Symphony '40	(27)	157	1096	64.40
48	Deep Velvet '39	(49)	167	1128	64.10
49	China Maid '36	(96)	185	1181	63.67
50	Chamois '44	(53)	133	984	63.44
51	Bandmaster '44	(57)	149	1049	63.40
52	Matterhorn '38		177	1149	63.35
53	Distance '46	(97)	113	887	63.10
54	Remembrance '42	(44)	159	1077	62.82
55	Winter Carnival '41		151	1042	62.52
56	Firecracker '43	(52)	161	1076	62.34
57	The Red Douglas '37	(58)	178	1134	62.33
58	Gloriole '33	(85)	172	1113	62.28
59	Spanish Peaks '47		52	505	62.14
60	City of Lincoln '37	(74)	179	1130	61.94
61	Spindrift '44	(60)	168	1091	61.80
62	Sylvia Murray '44	(56)	131	949	61.73
63	Golden Majesty '38	(60)	166	1081	61.62
64	Captain Wells '41	(86)	165	1077	61.59
65	Daybreak '41	(50)	167	1077	61.20
66	Christabel '36	(98)	170	1085	61.08
67	Golden Treasure '36		171	1084	60.84

VARIETY		1948		
	1947 Rank	Times Rated	Total Points	Balanced Rating
68	Fantasy '47 ..... (87)	127	917	60.75
69	Goldbeater '44 ..... (78)	141	974	60.73
70	Red Valor '36 ..... (72)	159	1040	60.66
71	Priscilla '42 ..... (90)	153	1014	60.40
72	Snow Carnival '42 ..... (79)	150	1003	60.38
73	White Wedgewood '43 ..... (64)	145	982	60.26
74	Sharkskin '42 ..... (48)	149	987	59.65
75	Vatican Purple '43 ..... (83)	145	971	59.59
76	Elsa Sass '39 ..... (88)	174	1071	59.57
77	Mexico '43 ..... (41)	152	994	59.42
78	Lynn Langford '46 ..... (81)	121	862	58.79
79	Gudrun '30 ..... (62)	180	1071	58.54
80	Missouri '33 ..... (70)	177	1055	58.16
81	Nightfall '42 ..... (82)	171	1031	57.86
82	Junaluska '34 ..... (94)	173	1036	57.79
83	Three Oaks '43 ..... (77)	139	918	57.70
84	Harriet Thoreau '44 ..... (100)	134	892	57.27
85	Shining Waters '33 ..... (93)	176	1033	57.12
86	Lord Dongan '40 ..... (84)	145	929	57.01
87	Ormohr '37 ..... (70)	174	1025	57.00
88	Desert Song '46 ..... (100)	107	773	56.90
89	Gypsy '44 ..... (93)	127	858	56.85
90	Old Parchment '39 ..... (77)	173	1019	56.84
91	Arab Chief '44 ..... (93)	123	841	56.80
92	Angelus '37 ..... (84)	157	965	56.67
93	Tiffany '38 ..... (63)	172	1012	56.63
94	Cloud Castle '44 ..... (63)	137	891	56.47
95	Ming Yellow '38 ..... (84)	169	1000	56.45
96	Golden Eagle '42 ..... (84)	147	925	56.33
97	Mary Vernon '42 ..... (84)	134	876	56.24
98	Sierra Blue '32 ..... (65)	175	1010	56.01
99	Lighthouse '36 ..... (65)	167	984	55.91
100	Pink Reflection '42 ..... (65)	148	921	55.88

It will be observed that despite a further adjustment of the interpretative procedure there are only the usual number of deviations from pattern. In fact the adjustments made were for the purpose of preventing in the future the wild gyrations that have marked a few varieties in the past.

Principal change in point assignment was the automatic assignment of a passing grade of 5 points to every variety seen by a judge but not classified into one of the five leading groups. It will

be remembered that judges were asked to cross out the names of all varieties not seen and then indicate by letters which of five favored groups they would designate for not more than 20 varieties of each group. Varieties considered poor and unpopular were to be indicated by the letter "P." The point table for scoring was:

TABLE III—NINTH SYMPOSIUM SCORING SYSTEM

CLASS	POINTS	LIMIT
A	10	20
B	9	20
C	8	20
D	7	20
E	6	20
U	5	None
P	0	None

The only change made from the eighth Symposium was the return to the seventh Symposium procedure of assigning 5 points to all varieties seen but not otherwise classified. It was observed that the assignment of only 2 points to unclassified varieties in the eighth Symposium had a definite punitive effect on many varieties both old and new. Hence the assignment of the nominal or "passing grade" of 5 points to all unclassified varieties. The principal effect of this was to return to the lower brackets of the list a few of the older widely distributed varieties like Vatican Purple, Golden Treasure, Gudrun, Missouri, Junaluska, etc., that had fallen into limbo as a result of the punitive effect of a 2-point automatic credit that was too close to the zero of poor performance. Many higher ranking varieties were more cited for poor performance than these older tried varieties.

Popularity is both a quantitative and qualitative attribute. Great popularity among a limited number is by no means the same as moderate popularity among a great number. Every election demonstrates this basic fact for it takes a lot of votes, rather than a few, to elect a candidate. However, not since the fourth Symposium in 1943 has numerical strength been considered in determining the numerical ratings computed. The average of all point scores has been the determinant of rank in the list of the favorite hundred. This sometimes caused a disconcerting ascent into the high levels by some new variety known and liked by the judges of only one or two regions. The subsequent growing of the variety in



regions to which it was less adapted would result in reports from judges that would cause it to nose-dive in the Symposium. For example, under eighth Symposium computation procedure, a relatively unknown new variety, if classed as an “A” iris by all of a relatively few judges would have become the leader of the list with a numerical rating of 100. As the probability of this untoward occurrence became greater it became more necessary to modify the numerical rating system of averages by combining it with the well-known system of percentages of par which is the method used entirely for the computation of team standings in sports, batting averages, grading examination papers, etc. Averages are used principally for statistical purposes but since they are so well known in Symposium procedure, the numerical ratings of this Ninth Symposium Report were computed by giving equal weight to both the average point score and to the percentage of par score. This has been previously referred to and used under the name of “balanced rating” and is so named here. An example, using the three well distributed ranking varieties and a 1947 introduction will show exactly how it works and will enable those interested to check the ratings if they wish.

TABLE IV—NINTH SYMPOSIUM NUMERICAL RATING  
COMPUTATION

	A	B	C	D	E
	Judges	Total	Average	Percent	Balanced
VARIETY	Voting	Points	Points	of Par	Rating
Ola Kala . . . . .	184	1759	95.60	94.57	95.09
Great Lakes . . . . .	186	1705	91.67	91.67	91.67
Chivalry . . . . .	167	1531	91.68	82.31	87.00
Spanish Peaks . . . .	52	505	97.12	27.15	62.14

In this illustration

N equals 186, the number of participating judges

P equals 186 X 10—par or perfect point score

C equals B divided by A; D equals B divided by P; E equals (C plus D) divided by 2

If the eighth Symposium ratings had been computed by the balanced rating method the numerical ratings would have been Ola Kala 90.57; Great Lakes 91.26; Chivalry 86.38, instead of Ola Kala 92.20; Great Lakes 90.09; Chivalry 90.89, as computed by the average method with all unclassified varieties receiving only 2 points. The effect of the raise from 2 to 5 points for unclassified

varieties is clearly shown in the increase of Great Lakes from 90.09 on the 2-point basis to 91.26 on the 5-point basis. Comparing the adjusted 1947 ratings with the 1948 ratings it will be seen that all three leaders gained this year but the 4.52 gain by Ola Kala leaves no doubt that it is the top favorite iris of America in 1948 with a much wider margin over Great Lakes and Chivalry than in 1947.

The variety Spanish Peaks, ranking 59th, and the only introduction to receive a numerical rating of more than 60.00 from fewer than 60 judges, is used in the illustration to show how reasonably well-known new varieties can advance in a more orderly although less rapid rate to Symposium prominence. Other well-placed 1947 introductions are Blue Valley (33); Cherie (43); Fantasy (68). Similar leaders of 1946 introduction are Helen McGregor (5); Amandine (17); Pink Cameo (22); New Snow (26); Lady Boscawen (27); Distance (53).

An analysis of the returns shows as usual a great difference in the voting strength of the different regions. Region 18 (Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, and Kansas) cast 22 ballots, or 11.8% of the total cast. Region 10 (Arkansas and Louisiana) cast only 2 ballots, or 1.07% of the total. Nine regions: 1, 6, 7, 9, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 18, cast 129 ballots or 69.35% of the total. Region 15 (Southern California) had the best voting record of 69.55%, followed closely by Region 9 (Illinois) with 68.20%. One regional vice-president followed the voting closely and made a personal effort that brought in several last minute ballots, another proof that the standing of a region frequently reflects the energy of the regional vice-president. TABLE V shows the performance by regions in the ninth Symposium.

TABLE V—NINTH SYMPOSIUM REGIONAL PARTICIPATION

Region	Number of Judges	Judges Voting	Voting Percentage
1	30	16	53.35
2	9	4	44.45
3	12	4	33.33
4	20	11	55.00
5	16	8	50.00
6	23	15	65.20
7	26	12	46.17
8	5	3	60.00
9	22	15	68.20

TABLE V—Continued

Region	Number of Judges	Judges Voting	Voting Percentage
10	11	2	18.17
11	10	5	50.00
12	20	7	35.00
13	25	13	52.00
14	14	6	42.85
15	23	16	69.55
16	24	10	41.65
17	26	10	38.45
18	35	22	62.85
19	14	7	50.00
Total—365		Total—186	Average—50.95

In the Ninth Symposium twenty-two varieties of the 1947 list of 100 favorites did not receive enough popular support to keep them in the first hundred.

TABLE VI—EIGHTEEN 1947 CENTURIONS REPLACED IN 1948

Zantha (39) .....49.53	Francelia (73) .....48.66
105 Lake George (43) .....55.06	Fire Dance (80) .....43.27
101 Black Banner (51) .....55.57	Cape Bon (81) .....43.76
116 Suzette (54) .....53.51	Miogem (89) .....47.24
Fall Days (55) .....39.19	150 Jasmine (91) .....50.07
Syringa (61) .....40.90	103 Cloth of Gold (92) .....55.31
Rainbow Room (66) .....43.64	Esquire (94) .....45.71
139 Cordovan (67) .....51.30	138 Mellowglow (95) .....51.29
106 Lake Breeze (68) .....54.97	110 Easter Bonnet (99) .....54.63

Figures at left of variety name are 1948 rank of those having a rating of more than 50.00. Figures in parentheses are 1947 rank but the listed ratings are those of 1948. Many of these meritorious and locally popular varieties simply are not well enough distributed to be considered generally popular. As they become better known they will probably rejoin the Symposium leaders to replace many of those older varieties that are listed below.

TABLE VII—EIGHTEEN NEW OR RESTORED CENTURIONS OF 1948

Treasure Island .....172	Shining Waters .....176
Matterhorn .....177	Ormohr .....174
Winter Carnival .....151	Old Parchment .....173
Spanish Peaks .....52	Angelus .....157
Golden Treasure .....171	Tiffany .....172
Vatican Purple .....145	Ming Yellow .....169
Gudrun .....180	Golden Eagle .....147
Missouri .....177	Sierra Blue .....175
Junaluska .....173	Lighthouse .....167



Figures after names of varieties are numbers of judges reporting on that variety in 1948. Surprise re-entry is Gudrun, known favorably to all but six of the participating judges.

It is worth while commenting here on the relatively poor showing made by many new varieties of whom better ratings could be expected. With a few exceptions most of these new varieties were listed as "seen but unclassified" by many judges who apparently wanted to observe them another year before giving them more than the nominal 5 points. Typical of these was a highly touted 1948 introduction that was unclassified by 15 of the 19 judges who reported it. Obviously a few low ratings for a new variety cannot compete with a lot of low scores for an old variety. Just the opposite, however, were groups of judges that gave some otherwise unreported varieties such point scores as these — 15 ballots : 135 points — 90.00 average; 11 ballots : 105 points — 95.45 average; 15 ballots : 138 points — 92.00 average; 6 ballots : 100 points — 100 average. These and two or three other varieties seen by fewer than twenty judges would have skyrocketed into the very top ranks if average scores only had been used as rank determinant.

As is customary, a color classification of the Symposium centurions has been made and is presented as TABLE VIII.

## TABLE VIII—COLOR CLASSIFICATION OF NINTH SYMPOSIUM CENTURIONS

### WHITE

- (12) Snow Flurry (16), New Snow (26), Lady Boscawen (27), Katherine Fay (35), Matterhorn (52), Winter Carnival (55), Spanish Peaks (59), Priscilla (71), Snow Carnival (72), White Wedgewood (73), Sharkskin (74), Gudrun (79)

### CREAM AND LEMON

- (3) Amandine (17), Desert Song (87), Old Parchment (90)

### WHITE AND YELLOW EFFECT

- (5) Fair Elaine (36), Golden Fleece (41), Moonlight Madonna (44), Golden Treasure (67), Elsa Sass (76)

### BRIGHT YELLOW

- (8) Ola Kala (1), Berkeley Gold (13), Treasure Island (40), Spun Gold (42), Golden Majesty (63), Goldbeater (69), Ming Yellow (95), Golden Eagle (96)

### ORANGE, TAN AND BROWN EFFECT

- (4) Tobacco Road (34), Rocket (38), Chamois (50), Arab Chief (91)

### RED AND RED EFFECT

- (8) Ranger (23), Solid Mahogany (29), Garden Glory (37), The Red Douglas (57), Captain Wells (64), Christabel (66), Red Valor (70), Junaluska (82)

#### PINK AND PINK EFFECT

- (13) Mulberry Rose (14), Pink Camero (22), Chantilly (30), Dreamcastle (32), Cherie (43), China Maid (49), Remembrance (54), Spindrift (61), Fantasy (68), Lynn Langford (78), Harriet Thoreau (84), Angelus (92), Lighthouse (99), Pink Reflection (100)

#### LIGHT BLUE AND LAVENDER

- (11) Great Lakes (2), Chivalry (3), Helen McGregor (5), Blue Rhythm (6), Azure Skies (15), Blue Valley (33), Distance (53), Gloriette (58), Sylvia Murray (62), Shining Waters (85), Cloud Castle (94)

#### MEDIUM BLUE

- (4) The Admiral (25), Bandmaster (51), Missouri (80), Sierra Blue (98)

#### MAUVE AND VIOLET EFFECT

- (3) Elmohr (8), Violet Symphony (47), Ormohr (87)

#### PURPLE

- (7) Sable (7), Master Charles (10), Black Forest (39), Deep Velvet (48), Vatican Purple (75), Nightfall (81), Lord Dongan (86)

#### WHITE PLICATA

- (3) Blue Shimmer (9), Los Angeles (19), Minnie Colquitt (45)

#### YELLOW PLICATA

- (3) Tiffanja (24), Firecracker (56), Tiffany (93)

#### BICOLORS AND BITONES

- (8) Wabash (11), Lady Mohr (12), Amigo (18), Extravaganza (46), City of Lincoln (60), Mexico (77), Gypsy (89), Mary Vernon (97)

#### BLENDS AND POLYCHROMES

- (9) Bryce Canyon (4), Prairie Sunset (20), Cascade Splendor (21), Grand Canyon (28), Casa Morena (31), Daybreak (65), Three Oaks (83)

Worthy of comment is the fact that the Ninth Symposium is a completely tall bearded Symposium since the advanced generation hybrids having most of the characteristics of tall bearded iris are now classified as such. According to this reclassification, varieties such as Elmohr, Lady Mohr, Ormohr, Ormaco and others of like origin are to be considered as tall bearded for classification purposes.

As usual there were the usual wide differences of opinion between regions. Several varieties that rate well in one region may receive some "P" classifications in the next one. Some varieties failed to make the hundred list entirely because of such adverse designations. If there is sufficient interest in the regional results of the Ninth Symposium, requests from vice-presidents for regional lists will be filled in the order received.

In previous years there has been interest expressed in the relative rank of a number of varieties that fail to make the hundred list by a small margin. As an extra feature of this report on the Ninth Symposium, TABLE IX lists those varieties failing to place in the first hundred but having numerical ratings of 50.00 or more.

TABLE IX—NINTH SYMPOSIUM EXTENSION  
Fifty Varieties Ranking 101 to 150—with Plus 50.00 Ratings

		1948		
VARIETY		Times	Total	Balanced
	1947 Rank	Rated	Points	Rating
101	Black Banner '47 . . . . . (51)	116	794	55.57
102	Lothario . . . . .	134	865	55.53
103	Ruth Pollock . . . . .	169	983	55.51
104	Cloth of Gold '45 . . . . . (92)	123	819	55.31
105	Brown Thrasher . . . . .	161	953	55.22
106	Lake George '45 . . . . . (43)	128	835	55.06
107	Lake Breeze '45 . . . . . (68)	121	806	54.97
108	Snow Velvet . . . . .	141	879	54.80
109	Arctic . . . . .	172	979	54.78
110	Frank Adams . . . . .	159	937	54.66
111	Easter Bonnet '44 . . . . . (99)	123	809	54.63
112	Melanie . . . . .	157	922	54.15
113	Stardom . . . . .	165	946	54.10
114	Balmung . . . . .	162	935	54.00
115	Louvois . . . . .	161	929	53.83
116	The Capitol . . . . .	114	759	53.70
117	Suzette '45 . . . . . (54)	112	748	53.51
118	Argus Pheasant . . . . .	59	479	53.47
119	Flora Zenor . . . . .	164	928	53.24
120	Redward . . . . .	134	826	53.03
121	Brunhilde . . . . .	162	917	52.95
122	Three Cheers . . . . .	127	797	52.81
123	Golden Spike . . . . .	144	857	52.80
124	Indiana Night . . . . .	135	826	52.79
125	Checrio . . . . .	169	930	52.52
126	Louise Blake . . . . .	142	845	52.47
127	Miss California . . . . .	163	909	52.32
128	Garden Flame . . . . .	137	825	52.29
129	Red Gleam . . . . .	156	885	52.16
130	Tea Rose . . . . .	133	806	51.97
131	Pierre Menard . . . . .	72	539	51.92
132	Golden Hind . . . . .	168	913	51.72
133	Prince of Orange . . . . .	153	868	51.70
134	Sunset Serenade . . . . .	134	804	51.62



TABLE IX—Continued

VARIETY	1947 Rank	1948		
		Times Rated	Total Points	Balanced Rating
135 Storm King .....		130	788	51.50
136 Misty Gold .....		121	753	51.36
137 Majenica .....		141	823	51.31
138 Cordovan .....		95	645	51.30
139 And Thou .....		130	785	51.29
140 Mellowglow '42 .....	(95)	114	725	51.28
141 Golden Russet .....		106	690	51.10
142 E. B. Williamson .....		158	872	51.04
143 Mary E. Nicholls .....		160	876	50.93
144 California Peach .....		147	835	50.85
145 Melitza .....		173	908	50.66
146 Garden Magic .....		147	830	50.54
147 Morocco Rose .....		174	905	50.34
148 Radiant .....		157	856	50.27
149 Pink Ruffles .....		140	801	50.14
150 Jasmine '44 .....	(91)	100	651	50.07

The Committee on Awards will welcome suggestions from judges and members for further improving the Symposium and making it more useful. Suggestions for the classification and rating of judges have been deemed impractical and undesirable. Other suggestions for having three classes of competition in the Symposium are being considered with the idea of avoiding competition between dissimilar groups. Difficulties exist in the definition of different groups but further studies are in progress.

The splendid response from the judges who participated in the Ninth Symposium was particularly gratifying. It is hoped that some way will be found to get the ballots for the Tenth Symposium into the hands of judges sooner than was the case in 1948 when the printing of the ballots had to await the results of the balloting for the 1948 awards and honors. In any event, no effort will be spared to make the Symposium as useful and accurate as possible.

#### HANDLING SEED

Do not leave your seed in the pods once they start to split, as they often become diseased and will not grow. Take them out, dry them well, and store in labeled envelopes till planting time—usually October in the northern

half of the country. Of course in warmer climates they may be planted as soon as fully matured, before the seed coat hardens; they may come up sooner and save a year.

—Miss Viola Kallenbach, Rt. 1, Mt. Vernon, Ind.

*News from a - - -*

## NEW REGION

NINA N. WINEGAR (COLO.)

*As we go to press, news reaches us that the Board of Directors has approved the creation of a new Region 20, comprising the state of Colorado. Formerly a part of Region 12, Colorado has for years been a center of iris activity. Congratulations are deserved by the enthusiasts there who have now brought it regional status.*

*Mrs. Winegar sent us the following article some time ago. Now, by happy coincidence, it becomes a report of the Regional Vice-President, as she has been appointed to that office in the new region.—Ed.*

The 1948 iris season began for some of us early in April when Mr. and Mrs. David Hall of Wilmette, Ill., came to Denver to visit their son, Richard, and his family. A most delightful evening at the Junior Halls, spent in visiting and viewing a fine collection of Kodachromes of the famous Hall iris, was indeed a pleasant prelude to a pleasant season. Among the well known and famous names such as Cherie, Radiation, Fantasy and Sky Ranger in Mr. Hall's collection of pictures there were some outstanding seedlings: 47-21, his best pink of the year; 45-18, a fine yellow to be named Illinois; and 46-10, later named Hi Time.

The Colorado membership of the American Iris Society had previously held an enthusiastic get-acquainted meeting and voted to organize as a group and share activities. Mr. Everett Cline and Mr. R. E. Ewalt became an efficient and successful trek committee, arranging all details for garden visiting and tours for the season.

### **Loomis—Lincoln Trek**

Our first trip, on May 23, was to the iris gardens of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Lincoln at Pueblo. We stopped briefly on the way down to meet Dr. and Mrs. P. A. Loomis at their beautiful home in Colorado Springs. Although the two towns are only 45 miles apart there is a difference of fully two weeks in the blooming season between Pueblo and Colorado Springs, since Pueblo is both lower in altitude and farther south. So it was somewhat early for bloom at the



Doctor's although buds were much in evidence at the house garden in its setting of beautiful evergreens and fine old trees. One very richly colored Mohr-Sable seedling, dark as Sable but more richly glowing, attracted our attention as the Doctor took us around to see his young seedling beds and cold frames. Some of the frames were wired for bottom heat, and it was interesting to note the more vigorous and advanced stages of growth in these. Many of the seedlings were Mohr crosses which seem always slow and difficult and somewhat temperamental in their manner of growth, most of them taking from two to four years to bloom.

Nearby in a special frame was a mass of exotic white Mohrs in bloom—Parachute I, a 1945 seedling. The buds were a very pale blue, but opened into large ruffled white flowers of heavy substance and with a glossy sheen, marked delicately with a tinge of lavender onco veining. Tall and stately and very beautiful was Parachute I, the first of a group or series of three. We were given to understand that Parachute II would likely be in bloom in the Lincoln's garden when we got there.

There is a most magnificent view from Dr. Loomis' garden. From the terrace at the back of the house the ground slopes down gently to where heavy masses of large evergreens on either side frame Pikes Peak for a perfect backdrop to the garden. In the clear mountain air it seems almost close enough to touch. Great flocks of Western Evening Grosbeaks completely at home in the large trees added to the peace and beauty of the scene as we discussed plans for returning in two weeks and left for Pueblo and the Lincolns'. Dr. and Mrs. Loomis were to follow shortly.

Arriving at Lincolns' we found the garden ablaze with color and some things even slightly past their prime. Through the years the Lincolns and Dr. Loomis have worked closely together in a friendship beautiful to see. For the Doctor the iris season starts with the Lincolns' season as he commutes back and forth to check the seedlings for two weeks before they bloom in his gardens at Colorado Springs. This has a special advantage where sudden vicious mountain storms can ruin the result of a year's work in a few moments.

One of the first things we heard after being warmly greeted by Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln was that Parachute II was out. Parachute I was still making a fine display after a long blooming season, and





From a Kodachrome by H. M. Shulenburg

"There is a magnificent view from Dr. Loomis' garden . . . with Pike's Peak for a perfect backdrop." Irises are some of the Doctor's tall white seedlings.

one lovely flower was out on Parachute II, which is a '46 seedling. Parachute II is more purely white in color than P. I, and the Mohr characteristics less strongly marked possibly than in P. I. Number III, a '47 seedling, was not in bloom but they promised us a chance to see it and also a lovely pink we had long been looking forward to when we visited the Doctor's gardens in two weeks.

### **More Mohrs**

There were many others of the Mohr seedlings in evidence. Out of many in a large group, mostly of purple tones, Mohr No. 3 impressed me especially for its lovely blending of heliotrope shades and its nice form. It was large and tall and very distinctive. Another, tagged simply "gray-blue Mohr," I liked greatly. It was really neither gray nor blue, but a lovely blending of lavender and purple tones that kept their harmony of coloring even after the first flowers began to fade. It was large and tall and had good form and substance. It will be interesting to see next year on a two-year



plant. There were several Mohrs showing a definite trend toward yellow, with a blue flush at the haft. Another white brushed yellow, without the blue at the haft, was of such form and so heavily ruffled that the buds formed without points. A Sable X Elmohr seedling was very rich and lovely.

Dr. Loomis has grown great numbers of Mohr seedlings with Elmohr leading the parade five years before it was introduced. In the seashell pinks he is the dean of all hybridizers working on this line, having bloomed his first seashell in 1931. Besides his extensive work with the Mohrs and the seashell pinks there was evidence of other crosses in some lovely things among the seedlings in Lincoln's garden; a very beautiful lavender-blue self of heavy substance and fine form, tall and large, and several very pure whites showing plainly the trend of his efforts to breed pure whiteness into whites. The white of all whites, however, snowy Spanish Peaks, the glory of the garden, we saw in a long row of one year plants; not one of them without a bloom, all tall, perfectly formed and uniform. The large flowers, grand form, broad ruffled petals, extremely heavy substance, smooth glistening texture, are all noteworthy characteristics, but it is the purity of its whiteness that makes Spanish Peaks stand out as the incomparable first of all whites.

### **Iris Parade**

Besides seedlings we saw a fine collection of better iris, well grown, as Mr. Lincoln keeps revising his lists. In the newer blues Blue Rhythm and Helen McGregor were both outstanding. These two are both so beautiful and yet so completely different that they do not compete with one another. Lake George and Lake Shannon are also different; Cloud Castle and Azure Skies, more in the lavender-blue class, are both distinguished by exceptionally nice flaring and ruffled form; Bandmaster, in powder blue, tall and large, has good garden value. Chivalry had finished flowering; also Blue Valley which I had much wanted to see.

In pure yellows there were Ola Kala and Berkeley Gold among many good older ones, and Francelia (McKee '44), a very nice bright yellow of good form I had not seen before. Green Shadows (H. P. Sass '43) I have always liked. Its green-gold color with faint lining is like a nice pattern of old gold brocade. Its form, substance, and branching are all good.

Melodist (DeForest '46), a burnished gold blend, also Treva (DeForest '45), a shining golden apricot of good form and Honeyflow (Tompkins '44), less glowing, but with a sprinkling of luminous gold dust, I liked. Other tawny blends that stood out were Arab Chief (Whiting '44), Copper River (DeForest '45), Cascade Splendor, Bryce Canyon, Chamois and Tobacco Road, all of Kleinsorge and all of very high quality. Innovation (Hall '45), a nice rose trimmed plicata which has a really pink effect in the garden, Remembrance, Overture, Mandalay, Chantilly, Lullaby and Maiden Blush—other representatives from Hall—together with Reveille (Tobie '44), Leilani (Washington '43), Salmonette (J. Sass, '46) and Spindrift (Loomis '44) all added to the new look in pinks. Royal Scot and Firecracker attracted the attention of those who like their plicatas highly marked. Both are well known and popular, and quite similar.

There were many good reds in the garden with Garden Glory (Whiting '43) still leading in smooth richness and trim tailoring. Ranger (Kleinsorge '43), Solid Mahogany (J. Sass '44), and Garden Flame (Hans Sass '41), all tall, large and smoothly colored rich reds, add value to any planting.

Among the darker reds and purples Master Charles (Williamson '43) as usual was outstanding. Indiana Night, Sable and Capt. Wells (all Cook), Storm King (Nicholls '40) and Black Forest (Schreiner '45) added the quality of richness which these fine dark beauties always bring to the garden.

In this home of Spanish Peaks other nice whites had not been neglected. Snow Flurry (Rees '39) still retains its own charm and distinction in any company; Lady Boscawen (Graves '46) was most lovely; its purity of color, great beauty of form with flaring falls and wide ruffled petals, strong substance and good branching were all notable characteristics, but there was a personality about the iris hard to describe. Southern Snow (Beck '47) had finished, but Katherine Fay (Fay '45), another fine ruffled white, was still good and very distinctive.

In the meantime Dr. and Mrs. Loomis had arrived, and Mrs. Lincoln, to give us all possible time in the garden, had arranged tables in the shade and had wheeled right into the garden a bountiful and delicious lunch. Great platters of fried chicken and the aroma from a huge pot of coffee finally drew us away and we



gathered with other guests from Denver and nearby towns around the festive board . . . but the talk was still of iris.

After lunch we went back to check again until time to leave but planned to meet Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln in Denver for the local tour and trip to Long's Gardens at Boulder the following week end and return to Colorado Springs and the Loomis gardens in two weeks.

### Denver Gardens

Saturday afternoon, May 29, had been reserved on our schedule for local visiting. Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln joined the group that had formed early at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Ewalt in East Denver. Mr. Ewalt is a director of the Men's Garden Clubs of America and is a well informed horticulturist with a keen interest in iris. His garden, although not large, is most complete. It is filled with only the finest varieties in plant material, chosen with a discriminating taste to fill just the right need and so well arranged that nothing has the appearance of being crowded. The grooming is perfect. Species iris, fine hemerocallis and phlox were coming on for future show and 100 or more giant blooms of Indian Chief tulips were still lingering from early spring. When we were there however the garden appeared to be full of iris; Zantha and Bandmaster, Berkeley Gold and Treasure Island; several lovely Loomis seashell seedlings with a beautiful clump of Mountain Sky, Old Parchment and Tea Rose. Garden Flame was there and the most stunning clumps of Lady Mohr and Elmohr planted together. They are completely beautiful planted as companions and I expect to copy the arrangement shamelessly. Our hosts refreshed us with delicious tangerine juice and cookies and left with us to continue the tour.

The beautiful home and garden of Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Graham were next on our list. This is another one of those smaller, perfectly groomed, well planned gardens where iris are well used with other things. Here it was with roses, lilies and peonies and such lovely things as tuberous rooted begonias. But now the iris had taken over, and Grand Canyon, Elmohr, Pale Primrose and Red Amber were making a beautiful display with a nice selection of older varieties among which a large clump of Marquita was especially lovely.

From Grahams' we went on to the new garden of Mr. and Mrs. Richard D. Hall. Here iris, roses and hemerocallis fill beds arranged on an axis line with the terrace from where Mrs. Hall was serving refreshing iced tea and cookies, so it was very pleasant to rest for a time in full view of the garden. Fantasy was in beautiful bloom here with Hit Parade, Tip Top, Katherine Fay, Firecracker, Stardom, The Sentinel, Buttercup Lane, The Admiral, Golden Russet and others. I had not seen Fantasy before, and its unusual combination of tangerine beard and orchid coloring was fascinating to me. It has good form and substance and branching and was doing very well on a new plant. Golden Russet had one bloom out to show its very lovely coloring. Room was being planned to add many more of the new Hall things so we have much to look forward to from this garden.

From Halls' we stopped to see Mr. Everett L. Cline's garden where he grows many fine iris as well as beautiful roses and delicious peaches. Mr. Cline is another active member of the Men's Garden Club. Here we saw Easter Bonnet, Mellowglow, Royal Scot, Coritica, Brown Thrasher, Berkeley Gold, Frosty Moon, California Peach and a great many others in lovely masses of color.

Our last local visit was at Mr. H. M. Shulenburg's garden in Arvada. Here Berkeley Gold, Tip Top, Lavender Mist, Red Amber, Spindrift, Nightfall, Chantilly, Overture and again Fantasy were all blooming well in spite of an early freeze. Rosy Ruffles (Rees-Salbach '46) had a flower frozen in the stem early and did not develop well but will be interesting to see another year. Iris here share garden interest with a very pleasant pool, very fine poppies and many kinds of lilies. Mr. Shulenburg is interested in hybridizing and grows many seedlings. His work in colored photography won him the first award in the AIS Kodachromes contest with a slide of Dr. Loomis' garden at Colorado Springs.

### **A Day in Boulder**

We started very early the following day in order to take in Mr. LeMoine Bechtold's garden before leaving for Boulder. Mr. Bechtold, another Men's Garden Clubber and prominent horticulturist, is famous nationally for his very fine hemerocallis, many of which have been introduced. His is a real hybridist's garden with great



numbers of seedlings of hems and lilies among an outstanding collection of hybrid and species lilacs and many fine lilies. There were many fine iris here too, and Innovation, Royal Scot, Chantilly, Harriet Thoreau, Lady Mohr, Lothario, Bryce Canyon, Vatican Purple, Louise Blake, Mellowglow, Melitza, Lori May, Master Charles and Lord Dongan were making a very colorful display. Mr. Bechtold joined us for the drive to Boulder, so this Sunday morning, May 30, found us again on the road for an early start toward Boulder and the fifteen acres of iris to be found at Long's Gardens.

The gardens were already filling with people as we arrived and headed for the sections where the newest things were to be found. The newest portion here had been transplanted the previous fall and it was very interesting to see the magnificent show being made by one-year plants. Rows 550 feet long were filled with uniformly blooming plants with hardly a bloom missing and only an occasional short stalk. There were several long rows of yellows. First came Berkeley Gold, a really fine yellow of pure color and good form. Its branching and habits of growth were good, and the flowering row was very uniform. Ola Kala was making its usual good show and Cloth of Gold was really outstanding in a long row. Tall, uniform, the flowers are large and full, beautifully formed with flaring falls, and the substance and branching are good. Its pure rich yellow is intensified by the brilliant orange beard. Arab Chief, warm and deep burnt orange with wide petals was tall and lovely. Vatican Purple in its dress of smooth purple satin, with splendid flaring form and wide petals, is very distinct always—one of the best garden iris.

Black Banner (Nicholls '47) was new here, a very deep and velvety blue-purple with smooth hafts, tall and fine and with good branching. Indiana Night looked well here as it had at Lincolns', and again Captain Wells and Master Charles were giving a fine uniform performance on one-year plants. Master Charles with its very distinctive flaring form was outstanding, but both are smooth and have a rich sheen and good garden value. Garden Glory was tops again among the reds; a little short on one-year plants but blooming well and exceedingly rich and smooth.

There were many fine things from Dr. Kleinsorge at Long's. Good News (Kleinsorge '46) I liked as well as last year. To me it is one of Dr. Kleinsorge's best but I have not seen his 1948 intro-

ductions. Good News is such a fine self of pure old gold with a fine form, very wide ruffled petals and very heavy substance; a little less tall perhaps than Chamois and Bryce Canyon—sister seedlings which were both introduced earlier—but its color is grand. Among the newer Kleinsorge introductions at Long's were Auburn and General Patton. They are similar in size and tailored form but Auburn has a definite blaze of blue on the falls at the tip of the beard; otherwise it is a self of pure rich henna, vivid and glowing. General Patton is a deep copper-brown, deeper than Bryce Canyon and more brown, with a metallic lustre that glows like burnished bronze. Gypsy is a tall, silky-textured variegata of coppery gold standards and smooth falls of chestnut brown. Cascade Splendor and Chamois were both outstandingly beautiful at Long's. Rose Splendor (Kleinsorge '47) is very different in color from any of the others. Ranger in a large block was very fine and Mexico is always a warm glowing note in the garden.

### Something New

As we walked down the many long rows we would come to smaller quantities of new things to get excited about. New Horizon (Fay '46) I had not seen, and here, freshly opened, it was lovely indeed, in an exquisite blending of creamy pink and ivory. The standards are wavy and pinker than the falls. The substance is very heavy, especially in the falls, where the ivory blends into the softest pastel pink, giving a peach colored effect to the flower which is deepened by the rich tangerine beard. This was in the morning when all bloom was at its best and I did not get back to see later how it was holding out in the battle with our brilliant Colorado sunshine but the substance looked heavy enough to withstand it well. Lilac Lane (Whiting '47) was not new to me for I had seen it as a glorious seedling in the Whiting gardens in 1945 and it had had fine bloom on a small plant in my own garden. It is a pure self of delicately toned lilac of extra heavy substance. The flowers are very full with wide ruffled petals, and the falls are widely flaring. To me it is one of the loveliest things in existence today, with its smooth even coloring, but I admit to a weakness for this color where the harshness is taken out of it. I think we should have more of it in the garden.

Among other fine recent things from the Whiting Gardens at



Long's were Campfire Glow, Baghdad, Rocket, Gypsy Rose and Blue Rhythm, all doing credit to their upbringing. All of these, and also including Garden Glory and Vatican Purple, have a quality in common besides those of smoothness and clear coloring, which enables all of them to withstand a great deal of punishment from the weather. Baghdad is really outstanding in this respect. Blue Rhythm puts on a fine growing and blooming performance with an abundance of good clean foliage and many flower stems. It is always tall and good even on one year plants.

Helen McGregor is another exceptionally good grower with excellent foliage but its more delicately colored flowers would benefit from some protection of shade from our blazing sun. Blue Valley (Smith '47) I saw for the first time at Long's. It is very blue, bluer than either of its parents, Lake George and Great Lakes, and it carries the blue veining less prominently than Great Lakes. It has very beautiful form, wide ruffled petals and very flaring falls. The blooms have heavy substance on well branched stalks. Chivalry was in bloom here, too, and was nice to see again. Its beautifully formed flowers of good substance and nice ruffling together with its medium toned smooth blue self make it a general favorite.

Red Torch (Hans Sass '47) was outstanding at Long's. It has great brilliance of coloring but is not harsh. The standards are the richest of golden bronze and the beautifully rounded and flaring falls are completely smooth pure velvety bright red. The flower has wonderful substance and fascinating form, and while not extremely tall, it is a real jewel for a front position.

The class of plicatas was exceptionally well represented here. There were Patrice, Vision of Mirza, Tiffanja, Minnie Colquitt, Rose Top, Peachblow, Coritica, Royal Scot, Firecracker, Aleppo Plain, Bertha Gersdorff, Rodeo, and I am sure many others. It is bewildering to try to describe them individually but they were attracting many admirers.

Extravaganza and Three Cheers were both in good bloom and quite stunning for their unusual color arrangement. Harriet Thoreau and Dreamcastle are somewhat similar in general color classification—Dreamcastle a redder pink and Harriet Thoreau more orchid—but for garden value they are similar. Dreamcastle has very wide petals and is marked with white at the haft. Black and

Gold and Black Forest emphasized the extremes to which depth in color tones can be developed in iris.

Solid Mahogany, Manyusya and Rainbow Room from Jake Sass were all good in completely different ways. Solid Mahogany in a large block was one of the richest things in the garden; Manyusya, very delicate and frilly in pure orchid; and Rainbow Room in coppery rose with a veritable rainbow of blended color in the falls is exotic and unusual. Some protection from the burning sun would be advantageous for this one.

Amandine was as fresh, cool and lovely as I had remembered it from last year. Howard Weed was new to me. From Kleinsorge ('46), it has the rich metallic lustre, good color (in this case a smoothly finished coppery rose), good form and substance that are characteristic of this grower. Another new one to me and which I liked very much was Sylvia Murray (Norton '44). It is smooth and tailored in form with a glistening sheen and frosty texture that are very becoming. The substance is heavy and the stalks are tall and well branched. It is another good light blue with personality.

Fantasy was very beautiful in Long's Gardens as it was the day before at Halls' and Shulenburg's. There is an interesting contrast of flowers and buds, and the orchid-lavender blending of color with a flush of yellow in the throat, the well formed blooms and good branching make it a very desirable garden subject. Other good things from Mr. David Hall's garden were Chantilly, Lynn Langford, Remembrance and Bandmaster.

Those two huge blocks of Elmohr were still an impressive sight at Long's although they had been thinned noticeably by many sales.

One of the most interesting things to me was a nice row of a lovely white seedling of Mrs. Douglas Pattison's. It had such a look of a white Azure Skies that I wondered if it could be a sister or a daughter. There were the same ruffled form, flaring falls with white petals and extremely heavy substance that are characteristics of Azure Skies, and in the long row an occasional slight tinge of blue showed evidence of blue ancestry somewhere. It was not terribly tall but I thought it would be most attractive growing before Azure Skies. I believe it was hoped to have the name of Fleecy Cloud for it, which would have been most suitable, but which miscarried in some way.



## There Were People, Too

We had seen many iris and met many people, among whom was Mr. John Ohl of Wichita, Kansas—for people flock in from everywhere to see these gardens. It was our very great pleasure too, to have a nice visit with Mr. “J. D.” himself, who came out and tarried for some time in the beauty and pleasantness of the gardens. (Mr. Long passed away on Dec. 5. See “In Memoriam,” this issue.—Ed.) It was nice, too, to see Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln again. We left with a feeling of inadequacy for the sheer impossibility of seeing all we wished to see. I had wished to learn something about the vast series of irrigation pipes for overhead watering that had been installed since my last visit. In a semi-arid climate like this, with rainfall seldom exceeding 13 inches annually, some irrigation is an absolute necessity even for iris, and this complete system looked like the last word in efficiency.

But now a storm brewing over the mountains warned us to be on our way. In fact we played catch as catch can with it all the way to Denver and came through one stretch of road in a thunderous hailstorm. Finally outriding it and hoping to escape, we nevertheless were caught by it again at Denver and I saw my own garden torn to shreds in three or four minutes.

The real disappointment came, however, the following day when Dr. Loomis telephoned that his gardens had been completely devastated by the same hail storm. Reservations that had been piling up had to be cancelled and general disappointment was keen.

However weather hazards do occur, and in this instance did not seem to check our activities for long, for we have heard interesting rumors of some 200 new Mohr seedlings ready for blooming next spring at Dr. Loomis' gardens. From the Halls we learn that the following fine new things and others will be seen in their garden next May: Sky Ranger, Cherie, Dolly Varden, Barbara Luddy, Distance, Courtier, Radiation, Illinois, Hi Time, Gulf Stream, Lake Breeze, Pink Cameo, Pale Dawn, New Horizon, Illinois Sunshine and Cock Robin. Others, too, have made changes and added lovely new varieties so the promise of another interesting season lies before us.

# Active Season in Region I

HAROLD W. KNOWLTON, (MASS.)

*R. V. P., Region I*

Region I now consists of all New England minus Connecticut west of the Connecticut River. Taking eastern Connecticut from our region meant that we lost about 25 members including three AIS judges. Nevertheless, through the activities of our membership chairman, Mrs. Charles A. Johnson, and others our membership has increased over a year ago. We now have about 230 members. Death has taken a number from us. Five of our judges have died—Mr. O'Driscoll, Mr. Gow, Mr. Carruth, Mrs. Tobie, and Mr. Gage. We now have only 26 judges, which is not far out of line with the general policy of one judge to ten members.

The death of our charter member, Mrs. Walter E. Tobie, and the recent death of that grand old man, Mr. L. Merton Gage, are both felt keenly. They are great losses to our group and to the whole Society.

It has been an active season. We have held six winter meetings in Horticultural Hall, Boston, as has been our custom for a number of years. In January, Mr. and Mrs. P. I. Merry gave us one of their beautiful illustrated lectures on iris, chrysanthemums and other flowers; in February Mrs. Thomas Nesmith gave an interesting and informative lecture on *hemerocallis* and Oriental poppies in the iris garden, a subject on which she is pre-eminently qualified; in March, Mr. Percy A. Brigham showed his fine color motion pictures on nearby gardens; in April we discussed our plans for garden visits, continued with a brief exchange of ideas on fertilizers, and Mr. McKee gave a short talk on preparation and planting of the seedling bed; in October we were privileged to hear Mr. Fred W. Cassebeer, an AIS director and Regional Vice-President of the new Region 19, who showed slides of iris, prize-winning flower arrangements, and pictorial shots of New England and New York scenery; our November meeting attracted a large attendance to see about 250 colored slides taken by Armand Benoit, William J. McKee, Dr. Irving W. Fraim, Kenneth Stone and others of our members; and at our final meeting of the year in December we were again privileged to hear Mr. Brigham who showed beauti-



ful colored moving pictures entitled "The March of the Seasons in the Arnold Arboretum." These meetings were well attended, with from 25 to 65 present at each one.

The garden visits in June were held as usual. Visits to the following gardens were made: Lowry, Barker, Knowlton, Fraim, Merry, Gage, Wheeler, McKee, Corey, Nesmith, Buttrick, Stone, Carruth, Barton and Murdock. Also many of us visited the garden of Mrs. Tobie and individually that of Dr. Graves.

At the June show of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society a group of us staged a large display of iris.

During the year a Regional Bulletin has been issued under the direction of William J. McKee and George H. Pride. It is to be followed by a winter issue now being printed, and plans are under way for continuing it next year. Our thanks go to both of them for the immense amount of work they have put into this.

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#### CONTROL OF REGISTRATIONS

The following is an excerpt from a letter from Mr. Harry J. Randall, President of The Iris Society (England) to Dr. Franklin Cook:

"Several weeks ago I wrote a letter to Mr. Dave Hall, Chairman of the (AIS) Committee on By-Law Changes, suggesting that we should institute some control on the flood of registrations from which we are beginning to suffer. It is obvious that in America you are going to get many hundreds of new registrations every year and the same sort of thing will happen in England where we have added to our membership and where people are being encouraged to hybridize for all they are worth. Some of these people have not seen a collection of modern irises and they will be wanting to register varieties which ought to have been strangled at birth. As things are at the moment there is no control whatever, and in this country we have the farcical situation of one of our oldest members registering six or seven

varieties from one cross of two old time varieties. No responsible member of our Society has seen the seedlings, and the raiser has seen nothing more recent than Alcazar. Unless we stop this kind of thing the whole system of registration will be open to the utmost contempt.

"My own proposal for controlling the disease is to insist that before a variety is registered it shall be approved by at least two judges of the AIS or, in this country, by two members of the Committee of the Iris Society. This suggestion is capable of considerable improvement and I put it forward mainly as a basis for discussion. I am going to raise the matter officially at the next meeting of the Committee of my Society—this will probably be held in February next—and it would be of interest to my colleagues and me if we knew whether your Society were proposing to do anything in the matter."

—Harry J. Randall,  
Surrey, England

# IRIS IN THE NORTHWEST

DR. MATTHEW C. RIDDLE, (ORE.)

*R. V. P., Region 13*

Interest in Region 13 at the present time is not centered upon the events of 1948, but rather upon those that are to occur in '49. For the first time in history the American Iris Society will hold its Annual Meeting in the Pacific Northwest, with Portland, Oregon, as the host city. A complete announcement is given elsewhere in this issue. While the program is devoted to visits to iris gardens in the vicinity of Portland, members are urged if they can afford the time to visit also the fine gardens in the state of Washington, particularly those in Walla Walla, in the Yakima valley and in Seattle. In Region 13 conditions of soil and climate are most favorable to the culture of iris, both tall bearded varieties and most beardless species thriving here. So a wide variety of iris, growing under ideal conditions, will be available to display to our visitors next May.

Due to most unusual weather conditions, the iris season in Region 13 was retarded nearly a month during 1948. Cool weather extending late into May delayed the production of bloom stalks. Then sudden hot, bright sunny weather suddenly forced flowering. As a result for a period of two weeks during the first part of June there was a riot of iris bloom, early, midseason and late varieties blooming simultaneously in profusion. Due to the bright weather the flowers were unusually fine though the period of bloom was short. The normal season of six weeks of flowering permits one to visit gardens in the various parts of the region in more or less leisurely fashion. But with so short a season as the one this year it was not possible to visit gardens over the region as I had planned. Obstructing travel also was the great flood of the Columbia river during the season which inundated the Columbia river valley, destroyed the city of Vanport near Portland and cut off rail and motor travel between the states of Washington and Oregon. So it was not possible to visit the fine gardens of Alexander Maxwell, J. G. Linse and Luke Norton in Yakima and those of William Roan and Douglas Wilson in Thorp as I have done for several years past nor to see the gardens of Gordon Plough in Wenatchee or the Seattle



gardens of Mrs. M. V. Torgerson and Mrs. F. B. Eylar as I had planned to do this year.

Spring comes early in Oregon. The first iris to bloom in my garden is *Iris stylosa* which this year produced its beautiful large blue blooms in February and March. Next came the lovely little irises of the *reticulata* group. In March, accompanied by Mr. R. W. Fielding, an accredited judge from Region 15, I visited the gardens of Carl Starker and Walter Marx which had a fine display of these early bulb irises. Here we saw the bright blue *I. reticulata* Cantab, the purple and wine colored *J. S. Dijt* and *Hercules* and the yellow *Iris danfordiae*. These bright clear colored irises blooming at crocus time are fragrant miniatures excellent in rock garden locations.

It was my good fortune to be able to attend the 1948 Annual Meeting of the AIS in Nashville. The bright sunny weather provided a fine background for the gardens of Mr. Clarence Connell, Jesse Wills, Geddes Douglas and Tom Williams. Their gardens were beautiful, well landscaped and full of the finest iris. Warm weather previously had caused the early varieties to bloom and fade, but a splendid display of the later varieties was presented for the enjoyment of the 400 members who attended the meeting. It being the first Annual Meeting that I had attended, it was particularly interesting to meet the fine people who are members of the AIS, whose names I have seen in the *BULLETIN* and whose grand irises I have grown in my garden. In general it was observed that the growth of iris in Nashville is lower than that we are accustomed to in the Pacific Northwest and the colors, particularly of the blends and of red toned iris, are not so bright as in our cooler and moister climate.

The gardens which we visited in Nashville contained a wealth of well grown new varieties and seedlings. Making a particularly fine impression in Jesse Wills' garden were *Chivalry*, *Blue Rhythm*, *Pretty Quadroon* and *Argus Pheasant*. Also seen and appreciated were *Blue Valley*, *Cascade Splendor*, *Three Oaks*, *Distance*, *Show Girl*, *Rajah Brooke*, *Orelia*, *Chamois*, *Campfire Glow*, *Tobacco Road*, *Cape Bon*, *Alpine Glow* and *Alona*. In the terraced garden of Geddes Douglas the feature of most interest was his own seedlings. *Amandine*, grown in a magnificent clump, deserved and won the President's Cup. *Pagan Gold*, a bold beautifully branched yellow, was also noteworthy. A number of Geddes Douglas' numbered seedlings

deserve mention. Among them are 725A, a fine large flowered pink, tangerine bearded, well branched iris; 833A, whose huge ruffled flowers flaunted wide henna tinted falls trimmed with buff; 841A, derived from Sukey of Salem X Alpine Glow, a rosy tan blend; 840A was somewhat similar, from True Love X Alpine Glow; 840C, a pink and tan blend; 801A, a deep blue self sporting a beard of the same blue color which came from Barbara Adams X Gulf Stream. Also in this garden were a number of beardless iris. Cathedral Blue, a lovely clear blue foliosa iris known around Nashville under the name "Miss Priscilla," made the blue of tall bearded iris look dull. Then there were masses of Louisiana iris, intriguing in bud, the few open flowers showing tan and wine colors of great charm.

### **Species in Southern Oregon**

In the middle of May with Dr. Charles P. Wilson I made a visit to the Siskiyou Mountain region of southern Oregon where Pacific Coast iris species occur in abundance and wonderful variety. For the benefit of iris species enthusiasts who may be driving through Southern Oregon in May, roadside displays of *I. chrysophylla* may be seen in the vicinity of Grants Pass on the Pacific highway; *I. bracteata* on the Redwood highway between Grants Pass and Crescent City near the Oregon-California boundary; *I. innominata*, the wonderful "golden iris," off the Oregon Coast highway at the mouth of the Rogue river and further north along the Coast highway hundreds of acres of *I. douglasiana* cover the hillsides. On trips into the mountains along these highways some particularly fine variations of these species were collected and are now growing in my garden.

In Walla Walla, Washington, a flourishing Iris Garden Club of over forty members exists. This enterprising organization has been most active and successful in inspiring its members to plant the finest iris gardens it has been my privilege to visit. Through the energy and enthusiasm of its members Walla Walla is officially the "Iris City." For several years the Iris Garden Club of Walla Walla has sponsored a Spring Iris Exhibition. This year I had the honor of being asked to judge the flowers displayed at its show held on June 1 in cooperation with the AIS, under the direction of Mrs. Otto New and Mrs. Albert Haase. A large number of fine stalks were well displayed. The sweepstakes was taken by a perfect



stalk of Ola Kala. The runner-up was Snow Flurry. Other good stalks shown were Ranger, Cascade Splendor, Chosen, Los Angeles and Elmohr. In the afternoon following the show, gardens of members of the Iris Garden Club were visited. These fine gardens merit special comment. They are small gardens containing irises selected with the greatest of discrimination and grown to a state of perfection not seen elsewhere. Climatic and soil conditions in Walla Walla must be perfect but I suspect that unusual understanding of the requirements of iris culture by the owners of these gardens accounts for the fine showing they make. William Mohr and its descendants are particularly well grown here. In the garden of Miss Ethel Wolf were huge clumps of William Mohr, Elmohr, Ormohr, Grace Mohr, Mohrson, Lady Mohr and Soquel which were so striking I shall not forget them soon. Hundreds of the huge flowers of these varieties, some borne on stalks shoulder high, produced an effect of unusual beauty. Even William Mohr grew nearly three feet in height and was floriferous to an astounding degree. A small stream flowed through her garden, along the banks of which were planted water loving iris such as Japanese varieties and *I. pseudacorus*, but these were of course not in bloom at that time.

Mrs. Albert Haase has in her garden a large collection of fine new and old varieties. In her garden were notable clumps of Rocket, Snow Flurry, Spun Gold, Katherine Fay, Elmohr, Blue Rhythm and White Wedgewood. Also a huge clump of Great Lakes left no doubt as to the reason for the fame of this wonderful variety.

Mrs. L. B. Losey's garden had among many fine irises large clumps of Mulberry Rose, Chivalry and Casa Morena. The latter surpassed in my experience all other examples of this famous iris of Fred DeForest I have seen. Another fine garden was that of Miss Laura Chandler. She has her irises planted in a novel and effective fashion with beds four to six feet square each filled with a single variety with paths between beds to permit close inspection of each mass of iris. Grown exceedingly well, the large clumps of isolated varieties produced a most striking effect. Among a great many varieties displayed in her garden especially fine were great clumps of Gold Ruffles, San Antone, Southern Snow, Rose Splendor, Rocket, Lake Shannon, Lake George, Tobacco Road, Idanha, Lady Mohr, Elmohr, Ormohr, Ola Kala, The Admiral

and Old Parchment. Across the street from Miss Chandler's is the large garden of Mrs. W. J. Schmelzer, iris pioneer of Walla Walla and responsible to a large extent for the enthusiasm in "The Iris City" for its official flower. Notable in her garden were Cascade Splendor, Chivalry, Inspiration, Auburn and in spite of high branching, the gigantic National White. One can realize on close inspection of the irises in Mrs. Schmelzer's garden why it is that in her garden and in others described above such massive clumps of new and rare varieties are found. The secret lies in the tremendous increase on the rhizomes grown so well here under such favorable natural conditions. A yearly increase of 20 to 25 rhizomes is not unusual, and in Mrs. Schmelzer's garden I have counted several clumps showing greater increase than these almost unbelievable figures.

### **June in the Willamette Valley**

By the first week in June on my return to Portland the long delayed season in the Willamette valley area of Oregon had arrived and in a most explosive fashion. My itinerary during this week included visits to the National Iris Garden now conducted by Mrs. Howard Weed near Aloha on June 3rd, the plantings of Fred DeForest at Alpine and Schreiner's near Salem on June 5th, Walter Marx' gardens on June 7th and the gardens of Dr. R. E. Kleinsorge and R. M. Cooley at Silverton on June 8th. Visits to these gardens are planned for the Annual Meeting in May, 1949, so the following remarks may be of interest to those who plan to attend.

The National Iris Garden, formerly located near Beaverton, was moved last winter to a new location on Cooper mountain near Aloha and is managed by Mrs. Edna C. (Howard) Weed and her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Putney. Nearly ten acres of iris have been planted in the new location on a mountain top overlooking the Tualitan valley west of Portland. Nearly 800 varieties are included in this large planting which includes almost all the newly introduced varieties of merit. To one accustomed to the small plantings of private gardens, a great field such as that of the National Iris Garden stirs the emotions deeply; at least it always gives me a thrill. The great panorama of color, the air laden with iris perfume and the uncounted thousands of flowers provide an experience of beauty worth coming a long distance to find.



Schreiner's Iris Gardens, located seven miles north of Salem and about 40 miles south of Portland, lie in the center of the rich and picturesque Willamette valley. The broad fields of this huge planting, about ten acres in extent, are framed by towering Douglas fir trees which dominate the Oregon sky lines. The rich valley soil and the cool moist climate of this locality produce fine iris growth. The Schreiner family—Robert, Constance and Bernard—who moved last year from Minnesota and with them their tremendous stock of superlative iris, are most welcome additions to Region 13's iris community. A feature of interest at Schreiner's in addition to their great collection of iris is a large planting of seedlings which accents the genetically difficult *amoena* and *plicata* strains.

A few miles away in Silverton, lying in the foothills of the Cascade mountain range, is located a third large planting—that of Cooley's Gardens and the world famous seedling bed of Dr. R. E. Kleinsorge. The Cooley's Gardens have in Silverton a beautiful display garden next to a new and modern office and packing plant. Their display garden, torn up during the 1948 iris season for replanting in anticipation of the Annual Meeting of 1949, will contain a distinctive exhibition of the finest selection of modern irises. During blooming season, in the adjacent packing plant Mr. and Mrs. Cooley maintain a continuous exhibition of cut stalks of superb iris renewed daily for the convenience of visitors who do not visit their propagating fields. The show room is large and well lighted, the iris stalks attractively arranged and labeled. During my visit there in June, 1948, crowds of visitors were enjoying this perpetual iris show which I believe is unique with Cooley's. A short distance from the town of Silverton are the propagating fields of Cooley's Gardens. These broad fields, comprising fifty acres in all, are beautifully situated. Each year about ten acres are planted in iris, the remainder being sowed with cover crops to provide a rotation of the iris planting to reinvigorated soil each year. Carefully planted and labeled, the endless rows of iris provide an opportunity for the interested visitor to examine and evaluate a tremendous number of the world's best iris. From these gardens have been introduced a great number of the finest iris, including Great Lakes and the iris originations of Dr. Kleinsorge.

The seedling garden of Dr. R. E. Kleinsorge, located in Silverton, is perhaps one of the most remarkable gardens in the world. This

small plot, only seventy-five feet square, has produced probably more fine irises than any other garden in the world regardless of size. From it in the last fifteen years have come more than 60 of the splendid originations for which Dr. Kleinsorge is noted. These include Far West, a fine iris in its own right and the progenitor of numerous famed descendants; Ormohr, the first excellent descendant of William Mohr; Treasure Island, the first of fine yellow modern iris without the blemishes of the progeny of W. R. Dykes; Arctic, still one of the finest cream colored irises; Old Parchment, which still leads its class; Daybreak, high ranking pink and long a Dykes Medal contender; Ranger, one of the finest red iris ever produced; Tobacco Road, unique tan blend and excellent parent of many new fine iris; Bryce Canyon, fiery runner-up for the Dykes Medal in 1948; Pretty Quadroon, delicate blend and sensation at the 1948 Annual Meeting in the Nashville garden of Jesse Wills; and many others. This most productive garden contained many new seedlings of great merit this season. Perhaps the finest is a very large, beautifully formed blend, delicately colored a pearly lavender with buff trim to the edge of the widely flaring falls which the iris-wise doctor thinks is one of his best and will soon be introduced. Dr. Kleinsorge this summer has planted in addition to his next year's crop of seedlings, most of his old introductions and many of their forebears so that his visitors in 1949 will be able to see in his garden almost all of his numerous famous originations.

### **Seedlings by the Ten Thousand**

Nearly 100 miles south of Portland, off the highway near the hamlet of Alpine, are located the gardens of another productive iris breeder, Mr. Fred DeForest. Mr. DeForest has produced many distinctive iris. The rich huge flowers of Casa Morena came from his garden, the beautiful pink Sonrisa, the fine yellow plicata, Tifanja, the intensely blue Lake Shannon, bright brown Orelia and Argus Pheasant, which I selected last year as his finest origination to date—ranked high in the Honorable Mention awards in its first year of introduction. Mr. DeForest grows seedlings by the tens of thousands and specializes in all types—blends, blues, plicatas and tangerine beards. I spent hours on my visit to his garden this spring walking up and down his rows of seedlings and found many excellent ones. Probably the most notable of these are plicatas. The



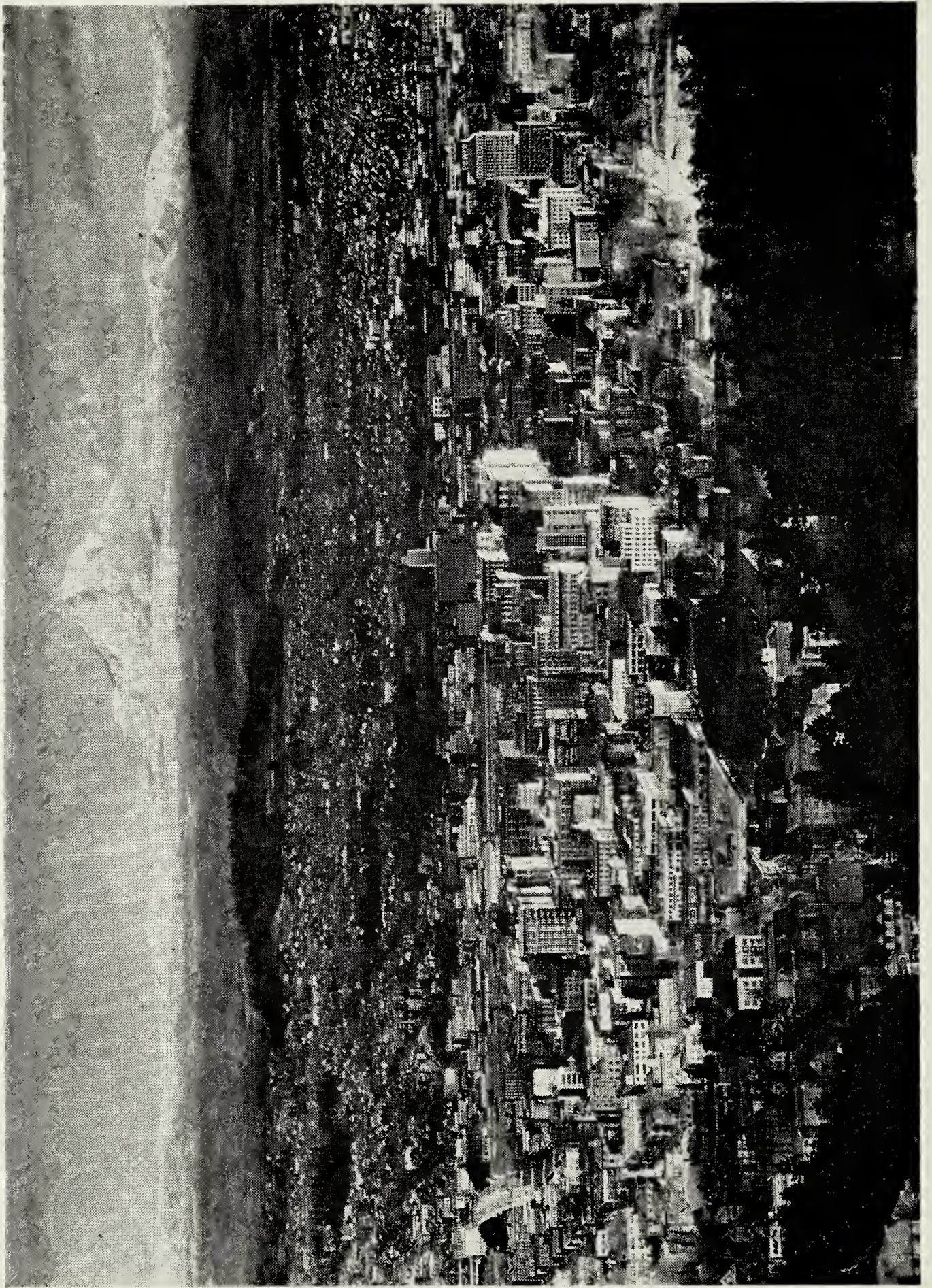
most outstanding is a large, very bright yellow plicata with neat brownish markings particularly distinctive because of the fine flaring falls and the brightness of the yellow color of its enormous flowers. Another outstanding iris to be named Clear Sailing is a recessive yellow bred from Tiffanja. This is, I believe, a great improvement on others of this type by reason of its fine substance, large rounded and flaring falls as well as the brightness of its color. Carabella, a tangerine bearded pink and a fine addition to this popular class, is to be introduced next year I understand. Among many other tangerine beards was an orchid colored seedling of great promise. Perhaps the most startling of all of his seedlings was a huge ruffled bright purple blend, startling because of its origin from Snow Flurry X Tobacco Road, a cross which would hardly be expected to produce an iris of this color. Crowded in a seedling row it was not possible to tell what sort of a plant this curious iris would produce. Perhaps the most successful cross in all Mr. DeForest's planting produced a long row of uniformly excellent pale blue and white seedlings. The cross was Snow Flurry X Lake Shannon. Mr. DeForest's garden also has a fine naturalized planting of Pacific Coast iris species in a grove of oak trees. A particularly fine collection of *I. douglasiana* dominates this wild garden.

Mr. Walter Marx has his garden on a farm near the village of Boring, about 20 miles from Portland in the direction of Mount Hood, one of the snow capped peaks lending grandeur to the scenery of the Portland area. Mr. Marx has the most comprehensive collection of irises imaginable. In addition to a large collection of tall bearded irises and his own seedlings of this type, he has an extensive collection of Japanese iris and of Siberians. Under the tall fir trees in front of his house is planted an unexcelled collection of Pacific Coast species and of numerous varieties of imported species, including many unusual bulbous irises. Included in this diverse collection are Onco and Regelia bred iris, Regelia and Regelio-Cyclus iris, Juno iris, *I. tuberosa*, various types of *I. reticulata*, dwarf and intermediate bearded irises, spuria iris and a large group of other exotic iris species. With such a variety of iris one or another of the genus is in bloom over most of the year. So I have made many visits to this garden in the past year. Early in the spring the first to bloom was *I. stylosa*; later the various forms of *I. reticulata* and from then on until late in July was a continuous

succession of bloom as the seasons of the different species arrived. Of Mr. Marx's seedlings the most unusual one was mentioned last year in my report. It is a seedling from William Mohr. Unlike others it is unveined and is a clear bright blue color. Under the name of Blumohr it received a 1948 AIS award of Highly Commended. Mr. Marx does not confine his iris breeding to the tall bearded group and has thousands of seedlings of species hybrids and Japanese iris. The last to bloom in his garden and his particular pride are his Japanese iris. For the first time I saw them in July this year and they were stupendous, fully justifying his interest in them. One can hardly describe the robust beauty of these spectacular flowers. Mr. DeForest told me that many of his best varieties have been recently imported from Japan, exportation from Japan having been restricted previous to the conquest of that country. I am certain I have never seen such fine varieties of Japanese iris before. Among the large number on display I made notes as to the ones which appealed to me most. They were Perfect Peace and Olympia, enormous pure white double flowers of astounding substance; Shimoyo, a medium sized very graceful single flower striated with purple lines; Margaret S. Hendrickson, a magnificent medium blue tripled flower; Lavender Giant, Karahashi, a tremendously large, very ruffled purple double; Kurumadome, grayish flower with purplish edging to the falls; Osamaru-miyo, very large white double flowers with heavy dark blue veins; Emi-hotei, extra fine blue; Kongo-san, deep blue double; Dimooneathe, light blue and Beauty of Yamamota, large rich dark blue.

I very much regretted that I was unable to visit Seattle this spring, particularly because I had hoped to meet members of the Seattle Iris Society and to see their gardens. The Seattle Iris Society, whose president is Mrs. Raymond J. Huff, is an iris study club of about 80 members with an ambitious and successful program. Monthly meetings are held during the year. A creditable BULLETIN is published monthly by the society. I have much enjoyed the BULLETIN which is sent me regularly. I firmly believe that local iris societies such as the Seattle Iris Society and the Iris Garden Club of Walla Walla are a fine development and contribute greatly to the culture and enjoyment of iris.







# *Westward Ho!*

## 1949 Annual Meeting Set for Portland, Oregon May 14th, 15th and 16th

The Pacific Northwest will play host to the 1949 annual convention of the American Iris Society, with headquarters in Portland, Oregon. Members there and in the surrounding area have worked out a program of three full days of visits to some of the world's largest commercial iris plantings, the gardens of several prominent hybridizers and an opportunity to visit some of America's most noted scenic wonders. Distances in the West are great—the three-day tour will cover a mileage total of close to 600!

Here is the program:

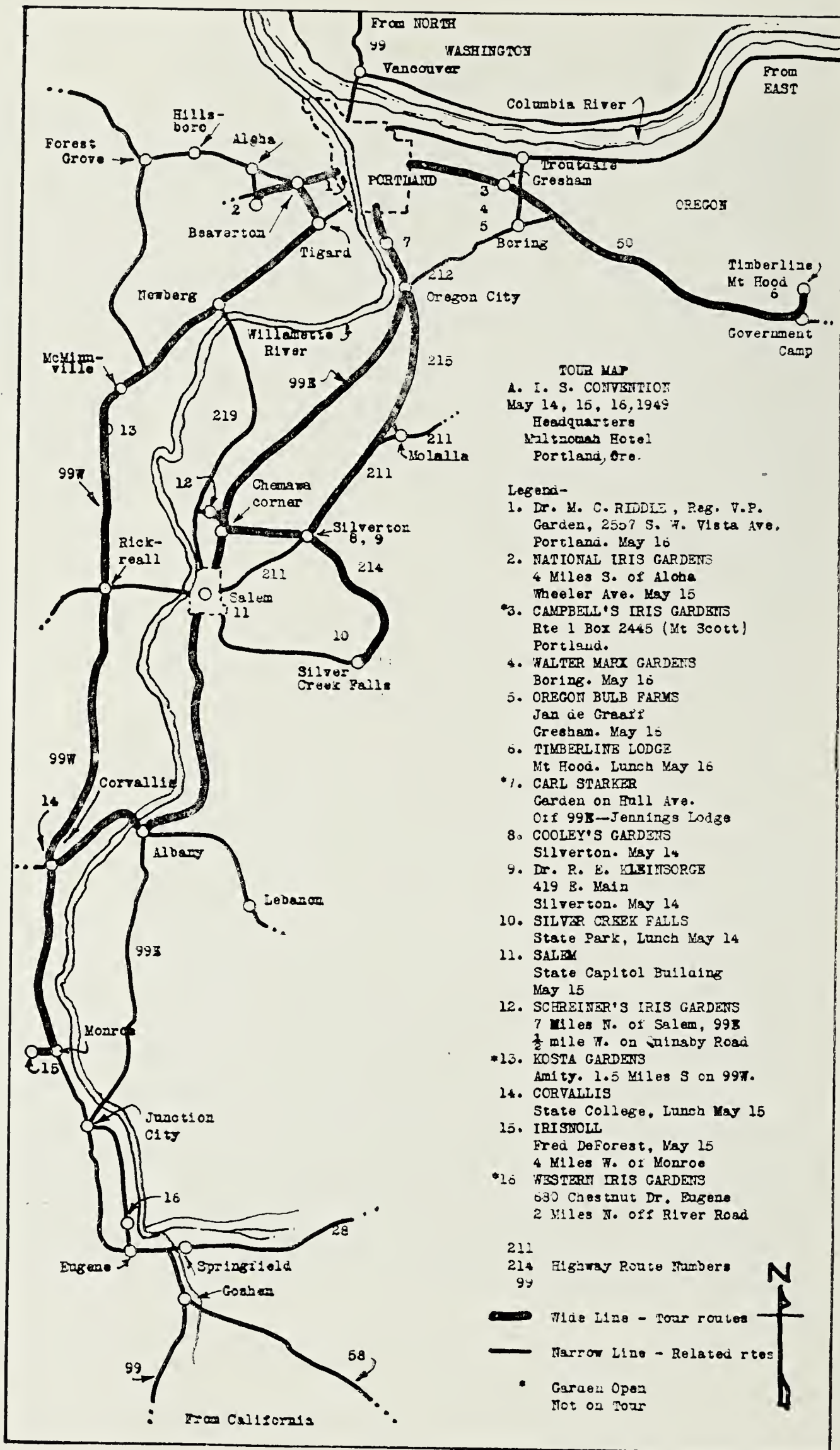
**SATURDAY, MAY 14**—Busses leave 7:30 A. M., with half the departures scheduled for Schreiner's Gardens north of Salem and the other half to Cooley-Kleinsorge Gardens at Silverton. At noon busses from both places will meet at Silver Falls State Park for an outdoor barbecue luncheon. Following the luncheon, all of the busses which spent the morning at Schreiner's will go to Cooley-Kleinsorge's and vice versa. Combined iris planting of these two commercial gardens is approximately 20 acres. A large indoor iris show is also on this schedule. Arrival back at Portland timed for 6 P. M. Total mileage for the day is about 175 miles.

**SUNDAY, MAY 15**—Departure at 7:30 A. M. for National Iris Gardens on Cooper Mountain near Beaverton, thence to Corvallis (Oregon State College) for luncheon in Memorial Union Building—beautiful campus and outstanding rhododendron planting. After lunch continue on to Fred DeForest's iris gardens at Alpine—commercial planting and new seedlings. Return via Salem with short stop at Oregon's State Capitol and grounds; continuing to Portland, arrival 6:30 P. M. Round trip amounts to about 250 miles.

### CONVENTION SITE

Mount Hood towers majestically behind Portland, Oregon, where the 1949 Annual Meeting of the American Iris Society will be held. This view is from a point near the garden of Dr. Matthew C. Riddle.









Between visits to world-famous iris gardens, guests at the 1949 Annual Meeting will lunch at Timberline Lodge on Mount Hood, equally famous as a winter sports center.

MONDAY, MAY 16—Leave 7:30 A. M. via Mt. Hood loop road with stops at Walter Marx's gardens at Boring and De Graaff's Oregon Bulb Farms near Sandy. Featured on these stops will be many unusual types and species of iris. Continuing to Timberline Lodge, famous winter sports center, where luncheon will be served. Here, high on the slopes of Mt. Hood, amidst snow heaped on every side, the towering peaks of the Cascade Mountain Range afford one of America's grandest scenic spectacles. After two hours the tour will return to Portland to the garden of Dr. and Mrs. M. C. Riddle where they will serve tea. The Riddle garden is noted for perhaps the most complete collection of Western native iris. Mileage for this day about 150.

The evening banquet is scheduled for 7:30 with Sidney Mitchell of Berkeley, California, well known iris breeder and author, as speaker.

DRIVING TO PORTLAND? The map (opposite page) shows you where to go and what to see.



## If You're Driving . . .

Many members planning to attend the meeting will drive their own cars. Those driving north to Oregon or south to California should plan to stop at Eugene to visit Western Iris Gardens of Wilbur Weed. Visitors arriving from or returning to the East can include gardens of the Yakima Valley and Walla Walla in Washington state as a part of their itinerary. There are several excellent iris gardens in the Seattle-Tacoma area and for those who plan to stay that long the Roan garden near Ellensburg, Wash., will be at its peak about May 30.

## Make Reservations Now

Tickets for the three-day program will cost approximately \$20, including complete bus transportation, luncheons, and banquet. Without bus tickets, the fee will be \$10. Hotel reservations should be made, if at all possible, by March 5. If you are driving and wish auto court facilities, please so state. Write promptly to Dr. M. C. Riddle, 2557 S. W. Vista Avenue, Portland, Oregon, chairman, and state the accommodations desired. If you are even remotely planning to attend, get in touch with him at once.

Since the schedule calls for a 7:30 A. M. bus departure on the first day, it is imperative that those attending plan to arrive the afternoon or evening of the 13th for registration.

\* \* \*

FLASH! The Union Pacific Railroad is considering running a special American Iris Society train to leave Chicago with pickup at Sioux City-Omaha, providing a passenger list of 250 persons can be assured. Reduced round-trip fares will apply. Sleepers may be occupied during the entire Portland stay if desired. If interested, contact Dr. Franklin Cook, 2747 Hurd Avenue, Evanston, Illinois, about the AIS special train.

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### PROTECTING SEED BED

After the snow is gone in spring we have repeated freezes and thaws, making the ground break into a network of cracks, some of them quite deep, which expose the seed to drying. Therefore I cover my seedbed with

spruce or balsam boughs after the ground freezes (from the ex-Christmas tree usually), as these do not mat down like leaves or carry weed seed like hay or straw.

—Mrs. E. H. McCulloch, Rt. 4, Box 600, Duluth, Minn.

# The Amazing Region 18

CARL O. SCHIRMER, (Mo.)

Upon being appointed Vice-President for this region the second year after its formation, I accepted with a little misgiving. I felt almost a complete stranger, as probably not more than 5% of the members in the region were known to me. But I started corresponding with people I knew and quite a few that I did not know and found that I had really gotten into something. As most of you know, Mrs. C. G. (Agnes) Whiting, who was Regional Vice-President in 1947, had really done things. I knew that she

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*Region 18—Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska and Kansas—grew in membership in 1948 as no other AIS region has ever grown before. Starting the year with approximately 350 members, it had more than 825 at the finish.*

*Regional Vice-President Carl Schirmer wrote this report before a number of the year's activities had been completed, but enough had been accomplished to show that he and his co-workers were doing a remarkable job.*

*Fittingly, Mr. Schirmer was elevated to membership on the Society's Board of Directors in December. His place as RVP has been taken by a fellow Missourian who is also an ardent iris enthusiast, W. F. Scott, Jr.*

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had instilled the old "pepper" in me but did not know that the disease was so contagious all over until answers started coming in to my first letters. She certainly generated the spark that touched off the fireworks; I found that I had inherited a "red hot" region—in my estimation the most enthusiastic in the AIS. In these answers I found that everyone seemed awfully anxious to help the region and the AIS, and they have really cooperated just as they said they would.

I also inherited the best regional secretary in the Society—Rev. David R. Kinish, more often known by his friends as "Father David." Father David is the most tireless worker I have ever seen, always ready to take on any task that is given him. His interest is not only in our region but in all of the Society, as a number of you "outsiders" who have corresponded with him know. Outside



of his work at St. Benedict's College, Atchison, Kans., iris really take up all the rest of his time.

Agnes Whiting, forced by ill health to give up official duties in the region, has still given a lot of her time toward the success of our activities in 1948. Most of our program consisted of things she had planned during the latter part of her term as RVP, and we just tried to carry them out. So you can see that I was very fortunate in having Father David and Agnes Whiting as my right and left arms, and in passing out credit for our successful year much is due to them for their wonderful support. But don't discount the fact that the whole membership combined to make this a great year.

Now a little about the region and the things we have done. At the start of the year we had a membership of about 351 and at this writing we have 570—a gain of 219. (More than 250 others came later.—Ed.) We also turned in 13 memberships from Oklahoma. St. Joseph, Mo., my home city, has given me very loyal support and with 44 members at present is leading the region, with Kansas City a close second. Quite a bit of this increase in membership resulted from a contest started the first of the year and scheduled to end Sept. 15, for which we set a goal of 700 members. (On Sept. 1 the total had reached 705.—Ed.) In this contest we have a membership committee of three for each state and the chairmen divided their states into three parts, assigning each committeeman one of these parts to work as he sees fit. Awards will be given the two persons in each state who get the most members. Then in some of the states the chairmen also offer extra awards in iris. Competition is very keen. We have also inaugurated a city contest with two awards—one in cities of over 50,000 and the other in cities under that—for the most members secured within a given time.

Another contest is under way for colored slides. We feel that though the AIS has good slide collections, it is more beneficial for us to have one of our own, quickly available not only to iris groups but also to any garden club or responsible group of garden minded people in our region. We believe that a consistent use of one or two good sets of slides within our region will do much toward furthering the iris cause for the Society. There was much

interest last spring in the taking of Kodachromes here, and we are looking forward to a wonderful collection.

The one thing that has done a world of good in this region is the publication of our *Regional News Bulletin*. This was inaugurated late in 1947 by Mrs. Whiting and Father David, their first effort being in mimeographed form. They did a swell job. Comments were so favorable that we decided to continue it on a quarterly basis and in printed form. As I write this we have had one successful issue and are completing a second one. These bulletins were made possible through voluntary contributions from our members as well as from a few outside the region.

Our idea is that the AIS BULLETINS are wonderful and well worth more than the price of a year's membership, but they come out only quarterly. We think the membership should be contacted more often to keep iris interest at an intense heat. So we have now taken up the slack. Our *Regional News Bulletins* and occasional news letters, along with the AIS BULLETINS, should give the members in our region iris contacts at least every four to six weeks. These, along with a lot of personal letters from Father David and myself, should sustain interest and result in fewer non-renewals of membership.

Iris clubs have been formed and are being formed all over the region. The Greater Kansas City Iris Club has a membership of 220 and is not a year old yet. St. Louis is starting a club and there is a world of interest there. Columbia also has an iris club and is doing a lot of good work. In a number of places there have been sub-regional meetings which have helped publicize iris. Then we have our semi-annual regional meetings each year. Last fall (1947) we had a wonderful meeting in Omaha and in the spring there was a successful one in Kirksville, Mo. It just seems that there is no end of things that can be done to create and stir up interest in iris and the AIS. We go to a lot of trouble to get quite a few of the members, so why not try to keep them interested and busy? We have also quite a number of Round Robin correspondence groups in the region and more are in the making.

The highlight of our activity was a three-day Regional Iris Festival in late May which started with an iris show and a tour of the gardens here at St. Joseph, followed by a dinner meeting



in the evening. Next day there was a tour of gardens in Atchison and Kansas City, Kans., and Kansas City and Independence, Mo., with two fine meals sandwiched in between; and the following day there was a trip to Kirksville for our semi-annual meeting, a dinner and a tour of the gardens. As Father David has previously reported this in the BULLETIN, I will not go into detail except to state that those who came to see our iris missed the early ones and some mid-season varieties, as our season was about a week early. There was quite a bit of interesting bloom to see, however, at most of the stops.

Our region is blessed with many hybridizers—some of them world renowned, as the Sasses, Mrs. Whiting and J. H. Grinter. Not quite as well known as these three are such men as Chet Tompkins and W. S. Snyder of Sioux City, Iowa; H. M. Hill of Lafontaine, Kans.; R. L. Lyell of Auburn, Neb., and Wiesner of St. Louis. Others are John Ohl, Wichita, and Melvin Geiser, Beloit, Kans.; Dr. Lewis Clevenger and Dr. Walter H. Ryle, Kirksville; Father David Kinish, Atchison, Kans.; C. Allen Harper, C. H. Lewis and Walter Timmerman of the Kansas City area, and many others. From these you are going to hear a lot, as there are some wonderful iris on the way here.

And why should we not have all of this in our region? To me this is God's country. We have soil here as good as if not better than anywhere else. It does not need fertilizing and "stepping up" to make fine growth on iris. I have seen as lush growth in our region as in heavily fertilized gardens in other areas, and our natural growth makes for less rot and disease. Last winter we had some bad weather that did affect the region—especially the most northerly part where ice and freezing caused considerable damage. One member lost about 90% of his plants but he has such faith in this region that he is starting over again. In our own garden we lost no plants but did have a little damage to bloom stalks from ice.

In my first year as RVP my regional duties took up so much time that I did not have the opportunity to make notations on seedlings, but I did observe enough to know that some from our members will soon be winning national recognition. In closing I want to extend to all an invitation to visit this grand region of ours during iris time.

# Iris Observations in Central and Northern Illinois

RAY J. BELSLEY (Ill.)

Peoria, lying on the west bank of the beautiful Illinois River in Central Illinois, where these comments are being written, is called "The Heart of Illinois" by our Association of Commerce. It is not quite at the geographical center of the state but it is very near it and is the center of agricultural trade for our great central plain farming area, which comprises some of the richest agricultural lands in the world. Artistically inclined persons will find the scenery around Peoria rivals that of almost any other part of the country. You should come and see it, and incidentally look at our iris. You'd be surprised.

As all articles concerning iris begin with an eulogy of the weather, here goes. During the winter of 1948 we had an average of perhaps five degrees above zero (Fahrenheit) over a long period, and with very little snow covering the ground. What little did fall, either blew or evaporated off almost immediately. The ground became frozen to a depth of about forty inches; this followed the very dry summer and fall of 1947 so that not much moisture was in the soil when freezing set in. Losses in iris here were greater than for many winters. All of our Aldura, Brunhilde and Golden Madonna, three out of eleven Lord Dongan, most of Shining Waters, all of Easter Morn, six out of ten The Red Douglas, half of Late Sun, three out of thirteen San Francisco and two out of three Destiny died. There were also scattering blooming tips or buds lost on a number of others. All plantings of newly set plants, which were well mulched, came through in good order. The losses mentioned above were all in established groups. In the Chicago area, where a fairly good blanket of snow lay on the ground most of the winter, losses were negligible. Our bloom was fine, however, except on a few varieties, only marred by a severe wind storm which blew many stalks down just as the first buds were opening. But with all of that, our season was good. During the blooming season we experienced twenty-one days of dry clear weather, yet the plants did not seem to suffer. We never before had such a large proportion of crosses that "took."



Gudrun was superb, of good stature and with many flowers. It always puts on a display, is most dependable year after year, and attracts much attention.

Matterhorn was never better, well branched, profuse in bloom and lasting over a long period. It is pure white, and seems to be one of the best whites for this part of the country, always performing well, and elicits about as much favorable comment as any iris we have.

Snoqualmie, which we think is one of the best of the older creams, was excellent, well branched, of good substance and had many blooms.

Golden Hind showed none of its Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde tendencies, every blossom and stalk being regular and of good form, well branched and a rich butter color.

Great Lakes, which in 1947 only put up two blooming stalks out of six blooming size plants, gave us five fine ones this 1948 season. Here is an iris that we purchased in 1941. We waited two years for a bloom, and still only one fan and no bloom. We purchased another plant and from the two starts now have five good sized plants. The flower is lovely and is tops when it does bloom, almost ideal in form, but so many of the rhizomes decay away. Another member here in Peoria has had the same experience with it. This is no doubt due to its ancestry of Dominion, which rots on the slightest provocation, and Conquistador, made up of Juniata and Mesopotamica, the latter being tender in our region.

Three Cheers finally bloomed after three years of coddling, three stalks on six blooming sized plants. The growth is thrifty enough. It is definitely a neglecta, somewhat larger than Wabash and not as fine in form as Amigo. It is high branched and has only a few buds. Still it is rather interesting. If it would only bloom as any good iris should and does.

Castalia, as always, for us at least, bloomed profusely and was greatly admired for its clear crisp blue flowers. We find that it needs to be divided about every three or four years to do its best.

Amigo was the center of attraction for some with its light blue standards and blue-purple velvety falls. It's very nice. Wish it were larger. We understand there are some on the way.

Old Parchment after five years gave us three bloom stalks. It is a fine iris with its heavy petals, semi-flaring falls and closed stan-

dards, pinkish cream in color, when it does take a notion to bloom. That makes six bloom stalks in five years.

Red Valor bloomed profusely and is a top flight red, with its large blossoms of good substance, nice height and long season of bloom. It's late too. I do wish that it would set seed more readily. We have finally been able to get a pod on it after sticking pollen on it for several years. We were able to scrape some pollen from Red Valor's anthers and pollenize several flowers. Col. Nicholls wrote that he had gotten several pods from it and the plants that bloomed, produced very nice reds with a fiery brown undertone. We are still trying.

Spun Gold has always done well for us, blooming profusely, with near velvety falls and finely formed blossoms. It is well branched, has good substance and blooms late. There is a tendency for it to go down in a high wind and at times it shows some spotting, particularly after a siege of damp cloudy weather, and then if the days clear and dry sets in, no more spotting occurs. Even with that, we still think it one of the best yellows. Its Dykes Medal was well deserved.

Arctic and Snow Velvet did well and are very much alike, both of fine substance, with yellowish centers and nicely formed blossoms. There are not as many blossoms as we would like to see and if we were to choose one, we would select Snow Velvet as the better of the two. Arctic doesn't always do well.

Golden Spike, if it didn't open its standards just when we are showing it to some visitor, would be tops with its substance, rich golden yellow color and strong stalk.

May Day wilts in the sun as does Maiden Blush, the latter to a lesser degree. Both are very delicate in color and are very beautiful in the early morning or on a cloudy day but just can't take in our hot Illinois sun. Both are very floriferous, blooming over a long season. We have reset May Day where there is partial shade during the hottest part of the day and it has done better.

Remembrance, on the other hand is a vast improvement, having lasting qualities, good form, very good substance and is a luscious pink blend, attracting the attention of all visitors. The stalk is strong, and the blooming season is fairly long, somewhat late.

Nightfall is very solid and well poised with its rich velvety purple petals, clean haft and closed standards, well named. Sub-



stance is exceptional and placement good. The falls are of rather even width, not as wide as we would like.

Blue Shimmer, after several years of sending up deformed stalks, bloomed magnificently in both 1947 and 1948, tall, well and widely branched and with attractively marked blossoms, blue stitching on pure white, a sight to be remembered.

Bonsor bloomed on a very tall stalk, the first in six years. To my mind it is definitely not blue but blue purple, has a clean haft, good substance and form and a well branched stalk, but too small a flower for a modern iris. Others are much better. About eight years late.

Winter Carnival sent up bloom stalks for every rhizome, with beautiful stiff squarish large flowers of firm substance, not many on a stalk, however. A very good white.

Berkeley Gold did well with its medium sized blossoms, and a lot of them. To my mind it is very similar to Golden Majesty, which incidentally has never done well here, and Late Sun. Inasmuch as Late Sun winterkills here, one can do very well with Berkeley Gold, discarding the other two.

Elmohr, after a wonderful display in 1946, refused to perform in 1947, but this year made a very creditable showing and perhaps justified its Dykes Medal award.

Lady Mohr bloomed on a one year plant in 1947 but refused to repeat in 1948. It's a rather interesting flower of fine substance, good size, stalk well branched and balanced; however, it doesn't seem to strike a responsive chord with us. Many are wild about it. Attempts to use its pollen and set seed on it have so far been without success. Guess we didn't get the right combination of chromosomes. We wouldn't want to discard it however for it is too unusual.

Brown Thrasher finally bloomed on nice stalks in 1947 and in 1948, the flowers being a rather even brownish copper with prominent haft markings; a well shaped blossom on stalks well branched, about thirty inches tall; not much substance—burns in the sun. It is now superseded by superior introductions, particularly Bryce Canyon, which has much better substance and is a more prolific bloomer.

Deep Velvet opens with beautifully formed flowers and then on the second day the standards begin to fold outward until they lie flat on the falls. It's a shame, too, for if it didn't do that it would

be tops in its class of deep purples. In contrast is a seedling of Orville Fay's which we'll tell about later on.

Snow Flurry bloomed well this year but it has taken a long time to get going. We've been watching for those seventeen-blossom stalks and finally got one with thirteen. The blue-white flower has very heavy substance, superb ruffling and holds on for three or four days, and sets seed with almost anything, only it didn't with Ormaco pollen. Short branched.

Virgin Snow, a rather small blossomed white from H. P. Sass, has very crisp, greenish white flowers, so chaste and clean, on thirty inch stalks. It blooms with the early tall bearded, and we like it as well as any of that size and time of bloom.

Ola Kala is a top flight yellow with its rich deep-colored, finely shaped blossoms, well substanded and well arranged on the stem but somewhat high branched, blooming over a long period. While the blossoms could be a bit larger for the height of the stalk, it is about the best yellow on the list today, and we are sure justifies its leadership in the symposium of the hundred best over all contenders, of all colors. After many tries, it finally landed the Dykes Memorial Medal in 1948.

Bryce Canyon, with its terra cotta coloring, bloomed wonderfully on one-year divisions. It is of medium height and size, perhaps just a bit larger than medium, has nicely held falls, just a bit flaring, and closed standards with good substance, the flowers well placed on strong stems; really a fine iris. And it doesn't burn in the sun. It stood second to Ola Kala for Dykes Medal this season.

Storm King and Blue Glow, both from J. C. Nicholls, bloomed at about the same time, very late and both excellent productions. They are different, but from a standpoint of beauty, we like Blue Glow the better. It has better form and placement, and has a more naturally shaped and held flower. Blue Glow is bluer than Storm King but the latter is a more solid blackish blue purple self, even the beard being dark. The beard on Blue Glow shows some yellowish orange and thus lights the blossom better. Storm King has the better substance, so heavy, in fact, that the falls seem unnatural in form. It is not so prolific in bloom as Blue Glow. Blue Glow has just received an Honorable Mention award this 1948 season.

Red Amber. When we first flowered Red Amber several years ago, our reaction was negative—frankly, we were disappointed—but



the more we see it, the more we now like it. The color is so soft and the substance good with excellent form and branching, and the blooms come over a long season. It has a creamy tone in the hafts with darker veining which seems to add rather than detract.

Katharine Fay is crisp and lady-like with her long hoop skirts and closed neck line, so white and clean, ruffled just enough. It is well branched, has excellent substance and is of medium height on strong well branched stalks. We think it the best of the three or four leading whites today. When we say this, we take into account the whites which proved dependable and are well distributed in established clumps. We like it as well as New Snow, also by Mr. Fay, but have not yet bloomed Snow Carnival, Lady Boscawen, Vigil or Spanish Peaks. We saw Snow Carnival in the garden of Dr. Franklin Cook and were not impressed, but we hope to bloom all of these in 1949, along with The Capitol, and then we may revise our preference. New Snow has just received the Award of Merit.

Jasper Agate. If we could only have its finish and color on a larger blossom and a taller stalk, it is so bright and clean. The surface of its petal seems almost plastic.

Helen McGregor came through on a one year plant with a beautiful stalk, but it is not blue. Its flower is finely formed with closed standards and quite flaring falls with a certain amount of fluting that gives it charm. We will say that we were truthfully disappointed after the build-up it had had in the BULLETIN write-ups. The blossom has crisp substance and the branching is very good. It has just received the highest number of votes for Award of Merit this season.

Azure Skies is of about the same color and blossom form, on a shorter stalk, possibly a shade or so lighter, but is much more floriferous, and it certainly puts on a show. If it were only a bit taller.

Garden Magic, to our minds, is still one of the better reds. While it is late, it has good form, size, height and blooms over a long period, and it is about as red as any. It does not set seed.

Los Angeles and San Francisco. Right here we wish to comment on our experience with those two very fine plicatas. We have had both since a year or two after they were put out. Los Angeles has given us representative bloom stalks in only two years, and those in 1947 and 1948. On the other hand the much maligned San

San Francisco has performed very much better, one season producing thirteen almost perfect bloom stalks on fifteen blooming size plants. We have had good bloom on it in ten years out of fifteen, and although we have had to watch very carefully for rot and winter-killing in both of them, have had greater losses with Los Angeles. San Francisco was, incidentally, the first Dykes medalist in this country—the year 1927. Both are excellent iris.

White Goddess, after sulking for three years, came through with eight or nine stalks of almost perfect form, well branched, about thirty-six inches tall and with many blooms, well formed and with good placement. Pure white and very breath taking.

The Admiral. Much favorable comment has been made about it by others, so let us say that while it is not to our minds a blue blue, it is a self of very pleasing blue tone with very crisp beautifully formed blossoms. No iris garden should be without it.

Daybreak has in some years been a very erratic bloomer but this season put on a performance upholding its position in its tie with Ola Kala for the Dykes Medal in 1946. Too bad there couldn't have been a decision. The stalks were tall, with many well held blossoms, crisp petals of fine substance, creamy pink with a yellowish undertone; a very nice iris.

Ormaco, an Ormohr seedling with about the heaviest substance of any iris, is a large blossom of bronzy purple. It does bunch its blooms somewhat but not as much as Elmohr and is much better in that respect than its grandparent, Wm. Mohr. We haven't been able to set seed on it or to get a take with its pollen on other iris. Wish we could.

Violet Symphony, with all its top rating, does not seem to be much improvement on its parent, Violet Crown. It has better substance but not as good clear color and is not so good in haft. We prefer Violet Crown.

Mexico is very brilliant with its buff gold standards and yellowish red velvety falls, semiflaring with wide hafts, large flowers of good substance, stalks well branched. It is deserving of an Award of Merit. It sets seed.

Inspiration bloomed on tall well branched stalks with large flowers, a rosy self—almost clean in the haft with very wide petals; a well balanced flower and stalk, but with only fair substance. Very attractive.

Elsa Sass. Of the Elsa Sass type of flower, we think the best



we've seen is Mattie Gates. We like it better than Marion Vaughn, Misty Gold, Golden Fleece or Moonlight Madonna. Misty Gold is a very good flower, but Mattie Gates has better form with a more pleasing "lilt," as one might say.

Chivalry is a nice ruffled blue with a lavender flush, well branched but not to our mind outstanding. We've seen it in four gardens but only on two well established plants, both in 1947 and this year, and to our mind the award of Dykes Medal given it in 1947 was quite premature, given before the plant had had wide distribution and had been seen by a widely diversified group of judges. The rules are at fault, not the iris.

### **Home of the Pink Buds**

Part of what follows seems like turning back the wheels of time, but, inasmuch as no comments regarding the bloom occurring in the Chicago area after the Evanston meeting held June 7 and 8 of 1947 have appeared in the BULLETINS, we do not think our remarks will be out of place. We were unable to attend the Annual Meeting at Evanston then because of factors beyond our control; and then it was raining, too. Finally on June 17 we drove to Chicago in a downpour of rain but next morning the sun appeared in a clearing sky. We arrived at the Wilmette gardens of Mr. and Mrs. David F. Hall about nine on the morning of June 18, and saw what the members attending the Annual Meeting should have seen about ten days earlier. Such a display of bloom stalks and flowers and buds still to open! Such color—pinks, blues, browns, whites, tans and creams, but most in evidence in the yard back of the house were the new pink buds. Clumps of them, each trying to outdo the other.

We will try to confine our comments to those which bloomed and were numbered after the general visiting was over in 1946. The reason for this date is that no comments have appeared in the BULLETIN. Others have commented on the qualities and virtues of 46-06, a large ruffled pinkish peach; 46-14, a large beautifully ruffled light pink with wide petals, standards somewhat open; 46-16, not so large but perhaps the most colorful of the earlier numbered ones; 46-20, with a nice tall stem, no veining—a smooth pink flower. All have the tangerine type beards. 46-31 was the last or highest number previously mentioned and that was in BULLETIN 103, October 1946, on page 93.





"Such a display of bloom!" in the David Hall garden.

46-45. This one struck us forcibly as an iris of great carrying power, apricoty shrimp, a self of good size, nice form, substance very good and about thirty-six inches tall with many flowers and "that beard." Its only fault—if it is one—, the standards are somewhat open. We sometimes wonder if we are not pursuing the closed standard fetish with too much zeal. Aren't some flowers such that the open standards improve rather than detract from their beauty and symmetry? It's just a thought. This iris 46-45 has been named Dolly Varden and this season is in propagation preparatory for introduction, as I understand it. It's a honey.

46-56 was about the pinkest, with a very large flower of good form but rather high branched. This iris evidently holds a high place in the esteem of Mr. Hall, as it is still prominently displayed in his garden this season.

46-52 is a creamy yellow of very heavy substance and a good flower. This has been named Sun Ray and will no doubt be introduced. It's a nice one.

46-10 (Reported in BULLETIN 104 on page 61—a Floradora X Cherie cross) was outstanding, very pinky-apricot, a self with a beard more in keeping with the petal color, a large flower with



closed standards and heavy substance. The only fault, rather high branching. A fine iris.

46-33. An "orangy" yellow, rather tall with a large flower—a seedling of Ola Kala which it resembles but to our mind is better. Its only fault seems to be that the falls are a trifle short in proportion to the balance of the flower.

46-60. A large flower, a pink bud and nearly a self, which, next to 47-19, was the pinkest good iris in the garden. It has rather heavy marking in the haft but this is not objectionable as it blends with the other colors of the flower—very heavy substance, falls very large.

47-19. This was the deepest pink of the flamingo type, of good size and width of petals, somewhat high branched. In 1947 this plant was also noted as outstanding in the seedling patch.

47-21, which seemed to be the best of the 1947 bloomers in the pink bud class, is a pale delicate flesh, a large flower of good form and with much ruffling. We did not see it this season; apparently it was not in flower at the time of our visit.

47-41 is a neglecta type with large flowers of good substance and velvety falls and very little haft markings. A nice specimen.

44-45 is still a good blackish rich red with thick substance and wide petals, particularly the hafts, and with good branching. This made a very beautiful clump.

Of the seedlings blooming for the first time in 1948, 48-15 was very good—a pink with exceptional substance and width of haft and petal generally laced and ruffled, a creamy pink, fairly well branched.

It might be well to take this time to comment on the improvement made by Mr. Hall in the pink bud or flamingo type iris. We have watched these since they first came into being and have noted their getting taller, the increase in the size of blossoms, color becoming clearer and cleaner, hafts losing their markings, the pink getting pinker, substance getting heavier, petals increasing in width and ruffling, standards coming closer together at the top and the branching tending more toward the ideal. Then he has added lacing to the edge of the petals in some—a new idea in iris form. While generally speaking, this strain of iris still shows somewhat high branching, the later crosses have produced superlative creations, entrancingly beautiful. Apparently Mr. Hall has had the foresight to see that the strain does **not** become so inbred that it will begin

to deteriorate because of the lack of stamina. We will watch that with much interest.

48-21 is a dark maroon self on the order of Captain Wells but larger, with a clean, unmarked haft and semi-flaring falls; a very nice flower.

48-17 is an amoena type seedling with rather soft buffy colored standards and rich purple maroon falls with a bluish tint, velvety texture and a clean haft. It is well branched and of good height. The flower could be a bit larger but it is very nice as it is.

47-28, a cream with the lacy edging of Chantilly, has unusually heavy substance.

47-38 is another cream with wide hafts, a large well rounded flower, nicely branched and with marked lacy edging on the petals. This lacy edging seems to be popping out on a number of colors other than pinks, and it wouldn't surprise us a bit to next see it on blues and purples.

47-07 is a medium sized white with an intense tangerine beard, of heavy substance and very floriferous. It was striking. Its only fault was that the falls tucked in a bit.

Cherie, one of the 1947 introductions, we again felt to be the best of those that Mr. Hall has offered, although many like Radiation very much. The latter is a different type of color; a fine iris, however.

We saw Barbara Luddy, Lapham's Spindrift X Melitza cross. It is a fine flower of good substance, medium in size with a red beard and with many blossoms. It certainly shows the Melitza influence in the wide haft with its flush of brownish grey.

Russet Wings (Wills) is sort of a coffee tan with much veining in the haft, large and very much like Sunset Serenade (Sass) which we think is a better flower in every way, except substance.

Illinois (Hall) is a tall cream of fine substance, size and form. We like it as well as if not better than any other cream we've seen, except perhaps Amandine, and that we wish to see again.

Stella Steedman (Covert) is a large white with round falls and yellow hafts. It's a nice flower but not enough different from others to merit introduction and is not outstanding.

Sea Lark (Muhlestein) is a very interesting two-tone blue. The feature that makes it interesting and different is a darker blue flush brushed around the beard and down over the center of the



falls like a bib. It's a nice flower and plant too. Some do not care for it but we do. It's very intriguing.

Three Oaks (Whiting) is a tall, well branched iris on the order of Dubrovnik in coloring but much better.

Blue Valley was in bloom here, a very large flaring flower with wide petals on a well branched stalk. It was very blue but heavily veined, this veining radiating outward from the haft and extending to the edge of the petal, thus giving a look of coarseness to the flower. From a little distance, however, this veining was not discernible.

Extravaganza was in bloom, a rather small flower with yellowish green standards and wine red falls, and not much marking in the haft. It is a step toward a better amoena type and should be valuable in breeding but hardly merited introduction for any other reason, particularly at the price asked. We understand one of its seedlings is a vast improvement and a worth while iris. We did not see it. Mr. Hall had several of the same type which we thought were better than Extravaganza.

Chamois and Cascade Splendor were in bloom next to one another. The latter was very fine in its coloring, similar to Daybreak but more rosy tan perhaps. The flower form and stalk were almost ideal, substance was heavy and the only fault is the rather heavy veining in the haft—not too objectionable, however. Chamois was more of a self of chamois coloring, well formed and substantiated on a good sturdy plant. Nearby was blooming a Hall seedling, 46-51, of approximately the same type of coloring, which, while not so well branched, had a larger, cleaner blossom, on very strong stalks and a very healthy plant; no haft marking. All three had very wide-hafted petals.

Red Torch was very brilliant in a nice clump, a fine flower. This was the first time we had seen it in bloom and had formed the opinion from reading its description that there was less contrast between the color of the standards and falls than we found in viewing the actual blossoms, but even then it was very striking and beautiful, well worth while and we are glad we have it.

### **At Dr. Cook's and Orville Fay's**

One of the most striking iris in Dr. Franklin Cook's garden was Lady Louise, a Dr. Graves seedling of Snow Carnival X Katharine Larmon. It is a cream with brownish orange markings in the haft

on a large ruffled flower and on a well branched stalk, but a bit high.

Cordovan (Kleinsorge), a brownish terra cotta, is much like Bryce Canyon but coarser. We like Bryce Canyon the better of the two.

Many of the latest originations were in bloom here, a number not yet introduced. Blues were planted with blues, whites with whites, etc., thus enabling one to make quick comparisons—a rather interesting way to plant but it does get monotonous when the clumps get large. We've tried it and changed.

Cahokia, Pierre Menard and Sylvia Murray were all good but to our minds, Cahokia was perhaps the cleanest blue with fine substance. Sylvia Murray was not quite so blue, but a nice flower. From what we saw in seedling patches better blues are in the making.

Mr. Fay was not at home, so we wandered about without guidance. Mrs. Fay said that Mr. Fay had gotten so tired out "Irising" that he had gone back to his regular work to get rested up. We did get to see some of his and other named varieties and a lot of his seedlings.

His Desert Song was well branched, of good substance and size—a beautiful cream.

A half block back of his house is his seedling patch and work garden on a vacant lot about fifty by one hundred fifty feet. Of course, it isn't vacant now as he has it beautifully fenced, with beds of good width running the long way of the lot and crossed with paths here and there. The paths have enough width that two persons can pass and not have their skirts or rain coats injure the blossoms and stalks.

Here the outstanding thing, aside from the light blues, which were in profusion, was 47-10, a blackish purple of good size, excellent form, semi-flaring falls, good substance and closed standards; falls nicely rounded. It is a self with a clean dark haft, about 36 inches tall. The only criticism is that while well branched, its branches are a bit short. We like it better than Deep Velvet and it should be a welcome addition to this class. We understand that he has a sister seedling, 47-32, which is better but we did not get to see it—no doubt the result of not having a guide. We understand that they are both seedlings of Dymia X Black Forest.



Cahokia and Pierre Menard were blooming nearby, thus enabling us to make careful comparison. We felt that several of Mr. Fay's seedlings were as blue as Cahokia, and otherwise very comparable in quality, strength, size, branching, etc. One in particular had that new look, i.e., such wide hafts that they touched and even overlapped each other. Blue Valley, blooming in Mr. Hall's garden seemed coarse in comparison.

Seedling 47-33 was outstanding, wide hafted, with flaring falls on a large blossom, low branched, with fourteen buds.

47-32 was very similar, perhaps out of the same pod, a real blue.

47-34, while not quite so blue as Cahokia, was of very fine form with flaring falls and excellent substance.

44-43 was on the order of Pierre Menard but very ruffled and large with heavy substance.

To come back to Cahokia and Pierre Menard, both by Faught, we thought Cahokia was much better this year than when we saw it in 1947—a cleaner blue—a self. It was well branched and had better substance than Pierre Menard although not quite so large.

Pierre Menard was also well branched, but while darker, was not quite so blue in that it had a slight lavender flush over the flower on the order of that on Chivalry. This showed quite clearly when blossoms of Cahokia and Pierre Menard were held next to one another. However, the great attraction of Pierre Menard over Cahokia comes from its complete balance of form with its nearly closed standards and somewhat flaring falls, both beautifully ruffled. The flower of Cahokia seemed "plain" beside that of Pierre Menard. This pleasing character in Pierre Menard no doubt accounts for its receiving the Honorable Mention this 1948 season over its sister Cahokia. But Cahokia is a mighty good blue iris nevertheless.

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#### LABELS

My pet peeve is to go into a garden full of lovely iris and find none of them labeled. You look and look and wonder what each may be. Labels are cheap, and it is a pleasure to know just which iris you like and which ones you don't.

—Mrs. James Maher, Box 43, Nampa, Ida.

#### CHART

I always make a chart of my iris plantings for later reference. I make it while they are in bloom, giving the date of bloom, size, color, fragrance, number of blooms per stalk and how well they last.

—Mrs. Elizabeth Matthews, Rt. 2, Siloam Rd., Freehold, N. J.

# Onward with Louisiana Irises

CAROLINE DORMON, (LA.)

When first seen in their native bogs the amazing variety in color and form of Louisiana irises seems to leave nothing to be desired. In fact, for a number of years we early collectors asked no more than to save one of each species and form. After growing them for twenty-five years, I feel that they are perfect for naturalistic effects, particularly for planting by pools on large grounds. And some varieties collected in the wild have proven satisfactory as garden plants, even with the many requirements demanded of the latter class of flowers. In other words, some of these jewels need no "improving" by the hand of man.

However, this growing popularity of Louisianas for the garden is giving us pause. Our delirious admiration is becoming a wee bit tintured with speculation. No matter how lovely an individual flower, it must be held erect on a strong stem—not too low, not too tall. A clump must present us with many flowers, not just two or three for the show-bench. And plants must be hardy enough to grow in a garden without too much coddling. A few venturesome souls thought they might improve these features by careful hybridizing. This work, tentatively begun, has gradually gathered impetus.

It was really the bees who pulled me into the business! In the same year, three chance seedlings which sprang up in my garden of natives turned out to be pink and rose. One of these, Dan Debaillon, remains the sole true pink, clear, soft, and warm. When several years passed and this happy accident was not repeated, it seemed that guided pollinating was desirable. I knew colors, and I knew my iris, so surely I could get just what I wanted. Alas, hybridizing is not like mixing colors on a palette! Some of the seedlings evidently revert and show traits of remote ancestors. At any rate, many of mine went on the trash-heap. However, a few planned results were achieved, and some of the surprises were delightful.

The discovery of the Abbeville type brought some desirable new elements into building the "perfect iris" (Louisiana). There were the new true reds; breadth of sepal and petal; and, best of all, the heavy firm texture of the flower. Most of the Abbeville iris are either rich red or yellow, but one, Peggy Mac, is magenta-rose. It

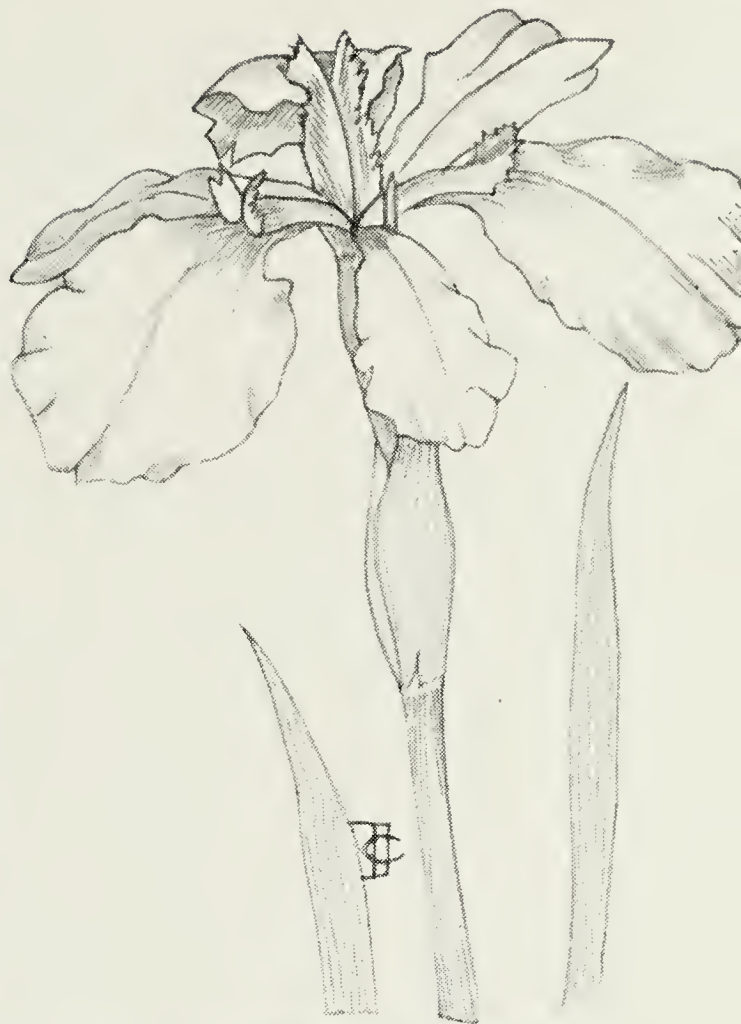


is not as large as some, but the form is perfect, and texture very heavy. In 1943 I crossed this with an Abbeville of clear crimson. Owing to late freezes that year, I did not have a wide range from which to choose, and the latter was of more drooping form than many others. However, some very beautiful flowers resulted from this cross, ranging in color from light warm rose to deepest wine. Those of poor form were discarded. One was much larger than either parent, a soft light cherry in color, and with ruffled overlapping sepals and petals.

In 1941, while wading a moccasin-infested Abbeville bog with two other explorers, we found an iris with gigantic flowers of a most unusual color. Furthermore, the sepals were 2½ inches across, and ruffled. Planning to use it in hybridizing, I named it Old Coral—because it was that color in Maerz and Paul's color chart. As soon as it bloomed in my garden, I crossed it with Peggy Mac. This spring three of these seedlings bloomed. All were big, firm, bright rose. The lightest and warmest colored one I called Cherry Blossom. But my ultimate goal lies somewhere ahead—an Abbeville of soft true pink.

More business-like hybridizers may feel differently, but to me surprises are delightful. I made a carefully controlled cross between two of our best rose-pink irises, thinking to get a very fine pink. Both of these varieties had been collected years ago, in the vicinity of New Orleans. One of these, because of its very large flowers and striking color, was named for that city. This has long recurved sepals and petals, while the other has a flower with all the parts almost horizontal. Because of its gay coloring, the latter is called Cajan. Well, those seedlings were amazing. Several showed the long curving parts of New Orleans, but the color! One was that blazing color seen between red and violet in a bright rainbow, rather trying, but certainly arresting. About half the plants produced impudent, upward-flaring flowers in shades of brilliant rose-red. The latter are very floriferous, and make attractive garden plants. But where were my planned pinks?

Experimenting with the native whites has been interesting. Some are albinos, and the seedlings throw back to blues and lavenders, but some produce whites. So far, no one has produced a white of Abbeville form—something to be desired. June Clouds has the breadth of sepal, but the big frilled style-arms are entirely different



Drawings by Caroline Dormon

Above is Caroline Dormon's ethereal white seedling which she named June Clouds. Ira Nelson's Cherry Bounce, Bordeaux red in color, is at top right; and the lower flower is Wild Cherry, another of Miss Dormon's seedlings of pure Abbeville stock. Its parents were Peggy Mac and an Abbeville crimson.



from the Abbevilles. This, my most beautiful white seedling, is of unknown parentage. Spring overflows in my little streams washed away my wooden markers. (I now use plastic labels, fastened to heavy wire.)

Going back to the subject of surprises, Ike Nelson got his fine Cherry Bounce while working for a bicolor in red tones. He crossed the bicolor, Contrast, with a good red Abbeville, and got a big flower with broad segments, in a smooth rich Bordeaux. Even though we may miss what we shoot at, the life of hybridizers is full of excitement.

Several of the Louisiana "irisiacs" at Shreveport have produced some fine iris by just planting seeds of good varieties, and there is little doubt that we shall continue to get lovely colors by this method. However, to get branching and other desirable characteristics, we will have to cross those which show tendencies in this direction. For example, of the hundreds of varieties here, I have had only three which showed definite branching. And I do not refer to the so-called "branching" of *I. foliosa*. In this species the sharp angling of the stem and the long pedicels of individual flowers give the *effect* of branching. Those to which I refer put out one long side-branch to each stalk.

Louisiana has trained geneticists, such as Dr. George Arceneau, of Houma, who are using their scientific knowledge in the breeding of these beautiful native irises. They already have rare grace of form and marvelous color, and one day they will be able to compete in every other respect with the best of garden irises.

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#### ROOF IRIS IN MICHIGAN

It was with considerable surprise that I learned in the October BULLETIN that many members find the roof iris to be a difficult subject. I have grown *Iris tectorum alba* for more than twenty years and in three different Ann Arbor gardens. I have always had it in the front of a bed with my tall bearded irises and have given it no particular care beyond a dressing of sifted compost during the summer. Top dressing is easier than lifting and re-

setting as Dykes advised. It gets no winter covering beyond that supplied by its own leaves, and it always blooms freely and sets seed if the flowers are not picked.

The three gardens where I have grown the plant have several characteristics in common: a heavy soil, good drainage and protection of neighboring hedges and buildings, with sunshine during part of the day. I have never had the blue type.

—A. E. Greene, Ann Arbor, Mich.

# Comments from Region 6

MRS. SILAS B. WATERS, (OHIO)

*R. V. P., Region 6*

Many members in Region 6 enjoyed delightful visits to gardens in 1948, and from their reports I am impressed with the sincere and earnest evaluation observers have given the thousands of iris seen.

Wishing to present a region-wide viewpoint, I am quoting some of the comments that were sent to me.

From Middlebury, Ind., Walter Welch wrote:

GREAT LAKES—Still the greatest blue today. No other can match its record for performance, breeding quality and general all around perfection of parts; and few can match its color. The daddy of all our good blues of today. Its one fault is its few lines on the falls.

OLA KALA—The supreme yellow. Deep clear color, fine flaring form, plenty of substance, good stalk with low branching; hardy and a fine performer. Stands rain and sunshine without wilting as most yellows do. Not a giant flower, but a real Dykes winner.

BLUE SHIMMER—The outstanding plicata, though it is not as clean as some. Standards rather smeary, falls not edged cleanly, color fine blue. The falls too long and down hanging, and standards have tendency to flop soon after opening. Wish it had the clear pattern of Fire Dance.

BLACK FOREST—If you want black, this is it; one shade all over, even to the beard, and what form! Wide flaring falls, closed domed standards, heavy substance, good branching, and texture like a piece of silk; it shines. Not tall but everything in proportion.

LAKE BREEZE—A rare blue with a glow of pink all over, delicate, dainty, but good size. A luscious thing with wide horizontal falls, beautiful arched closed standards; ruffled and a beard tipped white, with orange—almost tangerine—down in the throat. You'll love it.

ROCKET—For orange color, this is the nearest, though mostly concentrated in the falls. It burns badly in the sun and its shape could be improved. Outside of color I prefer Prince of Orange, a much neglected variety.



MEXICO—A variegata to brag about. Unusual, harmonious colors, large, extra size, very wide haft and falls, fine domed standards, heavy substance, sturdy stems with wide branching; a fine parent, excellent performer. Its only fault is reticulations on the haft.

GOLDEN SYMPHONY—A fine one, unknown because it is the last to bloom. Appropriately named, it puts on a show when all others are gone. Bright yellow standards, falls a blend of pinkish lavender and dainty blue, edged yellow like standards. Throat and beard brilliant yellow. Extends the iris season a full week. Very floriferous; large bloom and good shape; flaring falls.

SNOW FLURRY—The white with a personality. That charm you can't describe. The woods are full of whites and out of the mass only a few are outstanding—Snow Flurry, Priscilla, Matterhorn. The yellow beard and haft spoil most whites.

TOBACCO ROAD—A real tobacco brown with rich infusion of yellow; not a dull color. Very superior shape, with wide horizontal falls, and extra substance. Short in stature with good sized blooms. Does well here but reported uncertain in some parts.

JULIET—Here is one you will want. A brilliant flame-copper with orange tones emanating from it. A dark one to be so bright.

. . . .

Also from the Hoosier state came another letter:

When we—the Clarence D. Jonas family—moved to Fort Wayne, Ind., just three years ago in June, I almost caused a riot with the local town folk every time conversation centered around iris, because I began explaining the fact that my husband was hybridizing for an all-green iris “to put the green orchid to shame.” And even now I can hear them say, “What do you want a green flower for when you already have green leaves?” My best comeback was to ask if they ever priced or owned a green orchid.

I want to tell you one more thing in favor of the green iris Mr. Jonas is going to bring forth some day. I am in a course of study of flower arrangements and hope to be an accredited flower judge eventually. One of my instructors—a national figure in that field of endeavor—remarked that one of the first and fast rules of flower arranging is to “get distinction through use of unusual or new material.” And what else could that be but a green iris?

Here is a scoop. Paul Cook has an intermediate iris of creamy

white standards and falls with a dime-size spot of parrot green in the falls, and you don't have to use your imagination about the color, green! And besides that, the flower has substance. When I made mention of that fact, Mr. Cook asked me my definition of substance, and you know what a poker-faced expression he has when he is in dead earnest. So I told him what I had learned in Judging School, "A combination of thickness, firmness and texture," and when that broad smile came across his face, I knew he agreed with me before he said so. So here's to the future success of the green iris!

Our little family visited the gardens of Mr. Walter Welch at Middlebury, Ind., and saw an outstanding light blue seedling in this year, and I spotted an attractive apricot colored seedling in Mr. E. G. Lapham's iris beds at Waukarusa, Ind. Later, we traveled to Dr. Franklin Cook's lovely garden in Evanston, Ill., also stopping at Mr. Orville Fay's gardens nearby and were thrilled with a truly orange seedling, No. T 47-34, that he was displaying. And of course, Mr. D. Hall's garden in Wilmette, Ill., is always a thing of beauty and especially was his pink creation under number 46-60 something to be admired, because of its good color and form.

Now that the summer is over and the little brown iris seeds have been placed in the ground with care for their blooming season two years hence, we can start comparing notes and perhaps correct our mistakes of this year to improve next year's bloom. So the best of luck to each of you for more perfect iris, and if by chance you happen to be in the vicinity of Fort Wayne when the iris season is in full swing, we will be happy to have you visit our gardens.—*Mrs. Clarence D. Jonas.*

. . . .

Robert McCormick, Columbus, Ohio, offered varietal comments as follows:

WINTER CARNIVAL is still as good as any of the new whites. A large flower of splendid substance. Its free flowering character and hardiness give it added value.

WHISTLING SWAN is another fine white. It will go through the hottest sun or tearing rain and still look well. It is hardy and has a loveliness all its own.



HELEN MCGREGOR, BLUE RHYTHM and SYLVIA MURRAY make a threesome which is hard to beat. DISTANCE is a very pure light blue without veining; it is serenely lovely.

ALDURA is my favorite of the new blue-and-white plicatas, being a most striking flower and the first plicata with a really broad haft.

MARY VERNON is once again my first choice among variegatas, with its rich maroon and gold colors, its strong stems and many open flowers.

MASTER CHARLES is almost as perfect an iris as one could ever hope to have. The flare of the form gives it a regal note and the sheen lends a rare richness not often seen.

ORANGEMAN is always a splendid performer and is always the outstanding orange-yellow in my garden.

. . .

From Vincennes, Ind., Walter Buss wrote:

DISTANCE—One of these days the iris fraternity will wake up to the fact that DISTANCE is Paul Cook's greatest iris.

LADY BOSCAWEN—Shows pronounced winter tenderness here.

SPANISH PEAKS—Did not disappoint. Promises to be a great white.

BLUE VALLEY—Bluer than any we compared it with and the well proportioned and ruffled form is a delight to the eye.

LYNN LANGFORD—Big, smooth and beautiful. What a gal!

LILAC LANE—A charmer, refined in color, finish and form.

LADY LOUISE—This is one of the newer irises that impressed us.

ST. REGIS—A pale blue which may be the best of all.

CHANTILLY—A lovely iris, and we are going to be indebted to it for the lacy edges which will be imparted to future charmers.

. . .

Here are a few comments based on my own observations:

BAY STATE—Was glorious, its clear blue without shading or veining; its rounded falls and closed standards give it the stamp of near perfection.

SIERRA LAKES—Another finely formed blue which merits the attention of judges.

AFAR—Has an irresistible fascination. Absolutely intriguing. Is rightly named, for its salmon pink coloring can be seen from a distance. Has a long blooming period. Declared a "must have" by every visitor.

GOLDEN RUFFLES—Exceptionally fine in form and color. One may easily understand why it received the top award in the Salt Lake City Show, demonstrating its wide popularity.

GOLDEN RUSSET—A masterpiece; the buds are fascinating, the open flowers have a luscious color appeal and the size is remarkable.

CLOTH OF GOLD—Has a brilliance which gives yellow iris distinction.

MISTY GOLD—A lemon toned iris of great clarity, it looks as fresh as if it were just washed and starched. Petals are fluted and ruffled and stems are well branched. Lovely.

In Elmore, Ohio, Don Waters had a seedling patch which presented a thrilling sight, with many striking flowers in bloom. Three that I liked particularly are:

No. 148—A beautiful cream with a suffusion of lime green throughout the cream tint; wide falls and domed standards. It has exceptional appeal.

No. 5048—A most beautiful bright yellow, the flowers shaped like Helen McGregor. This is a new star in the realm of yellows.

No. 4048—A powder blue—a truly unusual flower, for there is a deep olive coloring, not veined, but solid olive on the haft extending well down the falls. Visitors predict a great future for this new color pattern.

Visiting outside Region 6, I was able to see the Cook, Hall and Fay gardens in the Evanston-Wilmette, Illinois, area. The hundreds of fine iris there almost defy description; one could devote pages to their beauty.

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## NEW OFFICERS

Judge Guy Rogers, Wichita Falls, Texas, has succeeded Dr. Franklin Cook as President of the AIS. Mr. Robert E. Allen, White Plains, N. Y., is the new Vice-President. Continuing in office are E. Greig Lapham, Treasurer, Geddes Douglas, Secretary and Sam Caldwell, BULLETIN Editor. Dr. Matthew C. Riddle, Portland, Ore., and Mr. Carl O. Schirmer, St. Joseph, Mo., are new members of the Board of Directors. This information comes from the meeting of the Directors in New York on Jan. 15 and 16. A complete story of the meeting will appear in the April BULLETIN.



# *Southern California Reports*

MRS. OTTO STUETZEL, *R. V. P., Region 15*

AND MRS. DOUGLAS PATTISON

Due to illness, my garden visits at iris time were curtailed to my own garden, by Doctor's orders. Mrs. Douglas Pattison consented to add what she remembers about visits to other sections, so I will write of the iris that bloomed in my garden.

One of the outstanding pictures that comes to mind is a planting of Helen McGregor, Lady Boscawen and Esquire, a beautiful rich purple of Mrs. Lothrop's. Esquire has almost everything a perfect iris should have; it should be in every iris lover's garden.

Mrs. Corey's Bay State, a tall, well branched blue of good form and no haft markings was greatly admired as were her Amity and Deep Night. Golden Ruffles (Taylor) was as lovely this year as it was last. Ventura (Walker) is a beautiful rich mulberry rose with reddish orange shoulders. It has good form and substance and makes a highlight in the garden. Miogem (McKee) is a very colorful iris and had many admirers. Mission Madonna is a fine creamy white. Pink Cameo and Cherie bloomed at the same time. Both are lovely, but Pink Cameo seems to have much the smoother finish. It will be interesting to compare them next year on two-year clumps. Chivalry lived up to its good reputation, as did Chamois, Mellowglow, Southern Snow, Blue Rhythm, Bryce Canyon, Moontide, Gulf Stream, Green Pastures, Ola Kala, Amber Gem, Mary Ellen, Amandine, Solid Mahogany and many others.

Marion Walker's new seedling, Parian, was most outstanding. Not a large flower, but pure white medium sized blooms of fine form and thick substance on stalks about 36 inches tall. As its name suggests, it resembles the smooth finish of Parian marble. Mr. McKee's 4055, a creamy pink with tangerine beard and good branching, will be interesting to watch another year.

Then there were the Pattison-Stuetzel seedlings—1570 first-year plants. A few were marked for observation next year. I'll ask Mrs. Pattison to carry on from here—

\* \* \*

I did not see many seedlings which appealed strongly this past blooming season and made only the notes necessary for rating. Mrs.

Stuetzel did not see these remarks of mine and is not responsible for them.

Distances are great in California and usually the judges living here in the San Fernando Valley make but one trip to the outlying gardens in San Bernardino, Redlands, Ventura and other iris growing centers. Mr. Marion Walker picked up several judges and took us on the San Bernardino trip. We lost our way and the route took us through beautiful Turnbull Canyon. I shall probably remember the magnificent scenery long after most of the seedlings have been forgotten, but it did shorten our day.

We saw Carl Taylor's garden, but he and Mrs. Taylor were packing to leave for Nashville and the Annual Meeting with Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Newcomb, who grow iris and camellias. No new seedlings were in bloom that day, but big plantings of the lovely Golden Ruffles and the new White Ruffles were outstanding. We missed Mrs. Lothrop's garden, but saw her Esquire in other gardens and in my own and it is one of the finest dark iris in commerce. It has no fault that I noticed. Time was short and we missed Dr. E. H. Brennan's garden, but I heard that he had some very good Extravaganza seedlings and some fine new spurias.

We visited Mr. Clarence White in Redlands and there were at least five fine new seedlings in full bloom that day. One might be called an improved Aladdin's Wish. It was taller and more colorful and the white center and white beard enhanced the beauty of the brilliant blue overlay of the falls. One glistening lilac gray blend with rich gold beard was very good. A red and yellow blend was brilliant and eye catching, but the one that stood out, in my opinion, was what I called a pure terra cotta self. I had never seen that color before. Mr. White is always a gracious host, but he seemed unwilling to give us the numbers of the ones we liked. I came away with the impression that he enjoyed raising them for his own pleasure and that of his friends and visitors and cared little for ratings.

I can understand that. While I have been a judge for more than 20 years, I concluded long ago that an experienced hybridizer, if he has a comprehensive collection for comparison or has access to an up-to-date collection, is better able to form a worthwhile opinion than the casual visiting judge. The hybridizer has it to watch day after day and all year. The judge forms a snap judgment and goes on his way. Years ago when new iris were coming along faster,



my garden in Freeport, Illinois, was an ideal spot for testing because of its central location. Judges came from all sections of the country, but no seedling was ever pointed out in the test garden and no hybridizer mentioned. A competent judge recognized a good new variety and carefully noted his rating on a sheet held closely before him. Glancing over shoulders was bad form. So far as I know, no meeting was ever held in which it was decided that "Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ is a very good fellow and ought to have something." This present day technique is one of the reasons, I believe, why so many mediocre iris are appearing in commerce. It is condoned by the hybridizers generally. Most of them would rather wait until they have achieved their goal than have an award each step of the way, only to announce the next year that an improvement has appeared. It is discouraging to the iris connoisseur and embarrassing to the conscientious dealer. It has a political touch out of place in judging lovely flowers.

I did not see the seedling bed at the Milliken display gardens. But Royal Crest is a brilliant violet blue with fine branching. Yarkand, Joppa Parrot and Baltis are outstanding oncobreds but have not been tested for hardiness. Mr. A. H. Heller, who raised Green Pastures of unusual coloring, lives in that locality, but his bloom was late. He reported a couple new things of merit.

Tom Craig lives on top of Mt. Washington between Pasadena and Los Angeles. He is the most enthusiastic hybridizer I ever knew. Some of "us girls" trudged up the hills and spent part of the morning examining his interesting seedlings. Peg DaBagh and 8-172 are lovely light blue oncobreds. Hi Ho is the most outstanding. 7-240, 7-242 and 7-243 were brilliant blends; I noticed a number of very good blue seedlings of various shades. Mr. Craig spoke of crossing plicatas with Wm. Mohr hybrids and expects that many of the good things of the future will come from crosses like these.

Mrs. David Lyon showed one new and outstanding seedling of great beauty—a green gold with excellent growing habits and stalks, now called Char-Maize. Miss Elma Miess showed three good ones at the Hollywood show—270-A (Desert Twilight), called the best stalk in the show; a blue, 535-A (Lake Tenaya), and 551 (Spring Romance). Mr. Eric Nies has an interesting garden. In addition to his douglasianas and spurias now in commerce, Color Guard, a

blue spuria, and velvety brown and soft tan under number were fine examples of the large new spurias.

One of our big days, always looked forward to, is a visit to the Walker lemon ranch near Ventura where true California ranch hospitality is at its best. Mr. Walker had a number of promising seedlings. I noted one orange toned one I would like to watch. His pure white Parian is generally liked. His "fancy" Lucky Strike is really a striking example of this form of plicata.

Fine collections of named things were shown in the gardens of Mrs. Elsie Heimer, Mrs. Otto Stuetzel, Mrs. Clara Goes, Mrs. Laura Burbridge and Mrs. Frank A. Nordberg. Mr. Adam Jones, a comparatively new iris gardener, has a big collection out on Old Topanga Road.

I'll mention briefly the behavior of a few in my garden. A two-year clump of Vigil stopped all visitors. Lovely Lady Boscawen grew and bloomed prolifically. The new Spanish Peaks is just off white with a cool greenish yellow center. Its fragile appearance gives no indication of its ability to stand five days of hot weather with no sign of wilting. Cherie and Pink Cameo were my best shell pinks, but Fantasy attracted more attention than either of them. Sydney Mitchell's Love Affair was charming. His new Lovelace has exquisite form. Its soft buff coloring is different and the rose stippling in the center is unusual. Mr. DeForest sent me a seedling called Carabella, a bright pink with a bright red beard. This one will never be overlooked in any garden. Lilac Lane, Gypsy Rose and Campfire Glow (Whiting) were all good. Pierre Menard (Faught) is a real beauty, a medium toned velvety blue. Red Majesty did well and was a lovely spot of brilliant color.

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#### ELMOHR IN SOUTH AFRICA

What a marvelous iris Elmoehr is! I got *one* rhizome from Mr. Carl Salbach in September, '46. From this *one* I planted 29 in November, '47, and from this 29 I have now planted out or sold 178. The planting of last year was a mass of bloom the whole of this October and half of November, and what lovely blooms! Is there a better iris? I certainly have not found it yet.

Why is Ola Kala No. 1? Perhaps it is not fair to judge it, as I imported it only last year.

The so-called "tender irises" grow like weeds here in Johannesburg, although we get up to 10 degrees of frost in the winter. But we have a completely dry winter from May to October and I have to flood them once a week or so.

*E. J. Wadley, South Africa*



# *Impressions--1948 Iris Season*

HAROLD I. JOHNSON. (CALIF.)

Present day expense of paper and printing suggested that a prospective long article on my 1948 visits and observations could be condensed materially. By doing this, I find that the following just about covers all that I need to say.

## GARDEN COMMENTS

<i>Gardens Visited</i>	<i>Dates</i>	<i>Weather</i>	<i>Bloom</i>
Mrs. Otto Steutzel Canoga Park, Calif.	April 23	Sunny-cool	Uneven
Mrs. E. Heimer Sherman Oaks, Calif.	April 23	Sunny-cool	Full
Mrs. D. Pattison Sherman Oaks, Calif.	April 23	Sunny-cool	Very little
Miss Clara Rees San Jose, Calif.	May 1	Sunny-cool	Uneven
Carl Salbach Berkeley, Calif.	May 15	Sunny-cool	Full
Sidney Mitchell Berkeley, Calif.	May 15	Sunny-cool	Full
David Hall Wilmette, Ill.	June 3	Sunny-hot	Full
Orville Fay Wilmette, Ill.	June 3	Sunny-hot	Full
Mrs. T. Nesmith Lowell, Mass.	June 11	Cloudy-cool	Uneven
Harold W. Knowlton Auburndale, Mass.	June 13	Cloudy-cold	Full
My own garden Atherton, Calif.	April 29 thru May 24	Generally cool	Full around May 8

I purposely included weather comments and times of bloom, despite criticism of this practice. Such information is of value to people who plan garden visits.

*Best Display* ..... Carl Salbach  
*Best Individual Flowers* ..... David Hall  
*Largest Number of New Varieties*, Mrs. Thomas Nesmith  
*Best Non-Commercial Garden* .... Harold W. Knowlton

The iris display at Horticultural Hall in Boston was also visited on June 14. No comment.

*General Effect of Season* — Very little in way of world-shaking novelties. This suggests that iris have now reached stage of slow but sure development. Tip to commercial growers: Broader markets are now necessary to avoid effect of the law of diminishing returns.

## VARIETAL COMMENTS

*Best Individual Stalks in Order of Preference:*

HELEN MCGREGOR (Graves). The one recent eastern introduction which looks like it has permanent value for California gardens; and it is beautiful in other places too.

RED TORCH (H. Sass). The brightest, smoothest variegata type I have seen.

CAROUSEL (G. Douglas). A huge, flaring flower in a striking but difficult color.

BLUE VALLEY (K. Smith). The jumbo Great Lakes.

GOLDEN RUFFLES (C. Taylor). Ranks with Fort Knox as a best yellow for California.

BLUE RHYTHM (Whiting). Flower shape and branching make this superior, but its medium blue is a trifle colorless.

MASTER CHARLES (Williamson). A richer Deep Velvet, good everywhere I saw it.

PIERRE MENARD (Faught). Another large and fine medium blue, the slightest dullness of color being the only thing I know against it.

TOP SCORE (Salbach). A Gay Senorita in more brilliant plumage.

ZANTHA (Fay). A fine Midwestern improvement on Golden Spike.

SUKEY OF SALEM (Nesmith). Embodies the colors I expected in Painted Desert and did not see.

MORNING BLUE (Jory). A massive light blue onco hybrid which will afford competition for Blue Valley.

EASTER BONNET (Maxwell-Norton). Good, but I do not know how else to describe it.

LUXURIA (Milliken). A slightly soft but beautiful orchid lavender self which so far has no competitors.



*Best Clumps in Order of Preference:*

ORCHID SPRITE (Nies). A douglasiana hybrid (California Section) which just about struck me as the best iris of the year and certainly of permanent value, at least for California gardens.

TIFFANJA (DeForest). This has been good individually and as clump wherever I have seen it.

RUSSET WINGS (Wills). A blend which could be marked down because of haft markings (I find myself now belonging to the Anti-Haft Marking Division of the Society), but which can be completely forgiven this defect when seen in a clump.

CALIFORNIA TREK (White). Apparently useful in Southern California only (it blooms itself out with me) but certainly worthy where it can be grown.

GOLDBEATER (Kleinsorge). A superb clump of gold in Massachusetts, although I must confess it is poor in my garden.

LADY MOHR (Salbach). Whether one likes or does not like it, it made outstanding clumps in the originator's garden.

*Examples of Iris I Found Not Outstanding, and which as a judge I am presumably supposed to ignore:*

GREEN PASTURES, SUEZ, DAFFY, AZALEA, SOUSUN, SALMONETTE, MT. HERMON, TIP TOP, ADMIRAL NIMITZ, ROSE SPLENDOR, PENN CHARTER, KEARSARGE, VIGIL, AND GENERAL PATTON.

These may have value in clump form; judgment thereon accordingly reserved.

*Best Unintroduced Varieties:*

QUECHEE (Knowlton). A self red which should be the recipient of an award from the Anti-Haft Marking Division.

HEART'S DESIRE (Wills). A rosy-red self entitled to the same honor.

HERITAGE, HI-TIME, 46-12, 47-19, 47-46 and 48-15. Newer ones from David Hall that all deserve distribution. 46-12 really looks like the pink illustrated in one 1948 catalog.

## FURTHER REMARKS

An award of the Dykes Medal for any one of David Hall's tangerine bearded iris would be no more than faint praise for his outstanding work. He has no competitors.

SNOW FLURRY still proves to be an interesting parent. A pale verberna violet out of SNOW FLURRY X CHIVALRY was one of the most distinctive flowers in Orville Fay's garden.

The FLORENTINE X TIFFANY seedlings in Mr. Knowlton's garden produced a number of strange and pleasant variations on the MOON-LIT SEA type. There certainly should be some use for these.

A bed of orange-yellow seedlings in Mrs. Nesmith's garden likewise contained things worthy of distribution. Improvement in these shades has been lacking.

Some older varieties performed at their best in 1948. AZURE SKIES was really worthwhile in Massachusetts; and in California, DUET, CHAMOIS and MEXICO surpassed their previous efforts.

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## IS YOUR ADDRESS CORRECT?

Please look at your name and address on the envelope in which you received this BULLETIN. If there is an error, write the correct form on a penny Postal Card and mail it to the American Iris Society, 444 Chestnut St., Nashville 10, Tenn.

We have recently changed to a new type address stencil that has certain advantages over the old ones. In making more than 4000 of them, however, it is likely that a few mistakes were made.

Misspelled names are irritating even when you get your issues; wrong numbers can delay and may prevent delivery. Postal zone numbers in the large cities are important. If your address stencil isn't EXACTLY RIGHT, we want to know. Also, please advise us in case of a change of address. We are equipped now to handle these promptly.



## SPRING IN SOUTH CAROLINA

RUTH SARA ROUTH (S. C.)

The thrill of an autumn visit to Mrs. Louise Blake's garden at "Three Oaks," Spartanburg, S. C., comes not only from the beauty of color effects produced by combinations of Michaelmas daisies and copper-hued chrysanthemums against a background of varicolored deciduous shrubs, trees and evergreens, but also from the promise of spring evidenced by interesting changes and additions already made in her famous iris plantings. The well known "Hall of Fame," started some years ago with a few outstanding introductions, now extends along the driveway and down the central walk. This year, a border paralleling the original border has been extended three hundred feet to the woods at the back, where are found drifts of Louisiana swamp irises.

In the "Hall of Fame" large clumps of all well known American introductions appear to excellent advantage, carefully labelled both as to originator and variety. The "New Look" will show an unusual collection of the newer pinks—some seedlings and some named varieties—with Fay, Hall and Loomis well represented. A bit of deep sentiment is expressed in the Smith group: Sea Gull of the late Ilse Smith planted in a niche with Kenneth Smith's *Admiration* and new *Blue Valley*. There is also a wonderful collection of Mrs. Whiting's "Maple Valley" irises. One of Wills' groups contains *Chivalry*, *Russet Wings* and *Vigil*. Kleinsorge's *Cordovan*, *Tobacco Road* and *General Patton* are placed there as are Mrs. Stevens' *Winston Churchill* and *Inspiration*, Mrs. Nesmith's *Bronze Brocade*, Dr. Palmer's *General Ike*, Jory's *Morning Blue*, *Blue Elegance* and *Askalon*, and many other "celebrities."

The circle of *Happy Days* around an old-fashioned yellow rose near the large banana shrub is a landmark. Leading up to the upper terrace are the "Pink Ruffles" steps. At the foot near the bed of pink *Radiance* roses is a drift called "Pink Dawning," including all "pinks" as they are added each year.

At the top of the steps the path winds through the rose garden and leads to a drift of "Blue Diamond" irises placed near the east-





Mrs. Louise Blake admires Ola Kala in the J. Sass niche of her "Hall of Fame" planting at Three Oaks.

ern veranda where a Lady Banksia rose climbs to the third story.

Around the lily pool are clumps of the best blues, in a section called "Blue Rhythm," artistically combined with appleblossom pink polyantha roses, double white pinks and columbine.

Other features include the "Rainbow Path," "Terrace of Plicatas," "Border of Amoenas," "Drift of Gold," "California Giants," and near the back door, "Sunset Garden."

"Debutante Terrace," in conspicuous array near the front of the house, displays hundreds of beauties making their bow to iris society. Some of them are Cherie, Floradora, Edward of Windsor, Pink Sensation, Pretty Quadroon, Fire Dance, Greig Lapham, Blizzard, Choir Boy, Themesong, Far Hills, Starshine, Sunset Blaze, Olympian, Pagan Princess and Carousel.

The 1948 winners of awards are highlights. Ola Kala is honored in a prominent terrace of large clumps of this Dykes Medal winner. A drift of Bryce Canyon, the runner-up has been added near the "Family Album." Douglas' Amandine, the President's Cup winner, is among the "noted." There are clumps of all irises receiv-



ing Awards of Merit and practically all those given Honorable Mention.

The "Family Album," near the entrance, contains introductions named in honor of Mrs. Blake—Louise Blake, Neighbor, Three Oaks, Lady Louise, and The Spartan.

To bid farewell to the iris lovers both new and seasoned, clumps of the best whites are portrayed against a background of French lilacs in a grouping called "Snowdrift."

"Three Oaks" will be a thing of beauty in the spring, for it is planned by an outstanding horticulturist, who has the eye of an artist and the soul of a poet.

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## 1948 IRIS SHOWS\*

MRS. RALPH E. RICKER, (IOWA)

*Chairman, Exhibitions Committee*

### COLUMBUS, OHIO

Columbus' first iris show since 1941 was presented by the Columbus Iris Society in cooperation with the American Iris Society on May 22 and 23 at the Columbus Gallery of Fine Art. The excellent attendance was evidence of genuine interest and a hearty welcome of the show's return. All during the hours there were people milling around, jotting down the names of varieties they preferred. No doubt our show has done much to encourage the growing of more iris in the Ohio gardens.

The Silver Medal of the AIS was awarded to Mr. Robert H. McCormick, who received the greatest number of prize points in the show. Mrs. Paul Stephan was awarded the Bronze Medal for receiving the second highest number of prize points.

The American Iris Society membership was awarded to Mrs. S. A. Warman for her exhibit of a collection of iris by one who had not previously shown at this or any other AIS show.

The most outstanding stalk in the show was Snow Velvet, exhibited by Mrs. V. I. Sheridan.

Mr. McCormick also received the Louise H. Arbuckle Silver Cup for having the greatest number of first prize points in the iris division of the show. This cup must be won three times by the same exhibitor in order to gain permanent ownership. The Silver Cup is offered by Miss Mabel Arbuckle and Mrs. Fern A. Powell as a memorial to their mother who was one of the founders and first president of the Columbus Iris Society.

—Robert H. McCormick, Show Chairman

—Grace G. Innis, Schedule Chairman

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\*1948 shows in Birmingham, Ala; Enid, Okla.; Macon, Ga.; Oklahoma City, Okla., and Sioux City, Iowa, were reported in the last (October) BULLETIN.

DULUTH, MINN.

The Duluth Peony and Iris Society held its iris show June 11 and 12 in the City Hall. Due to a very early spring the show was held ten days earlier than any previous one but the quality of bloom and the number of varieties exhibited surpassed many of our past showings.

Mr. Austin Fathers carried off the honors, winning the American Iris Society Silver Medal for the most points in the show and the Bronze Medal for receiving the most points in the specimen classes.

There is a growing interest in iris in Duluth for our attendance was exceptionally large and many of the visitors were busy with pencil and paper taking the names of the varieties which they desire to purchase.

—Mrs. J. F. Thompson

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HOLLYWOOD, CALIF.

The ninth iris show sponsored by the Hollywood Garden Club in cooperation with the American Iris Society was held April 17 and 18 in Plummer Park. The date of the show being a little too early for the height of bloom naturally cut down the number of specimens for competition.

Mr. Marion R. Walker, Ventura, was awarded the Silver Medal of the AIS, and the Bronze Medal of the AIS was won by Dr. Roswell H. Johnson. The new book, THE IRIS, offered by the Hollywood Garden Club, was won by Mr. Frederick Kennedy, San Dimas.

Some remarkable specimens were brought out in the seedling class. One, a yellow self from the Syllmar Gardens in San Fernando, will surely be heard from when it gets into commerce. The following seedlings received the "Certificate of Commendation"—

551A—Spring Romance .....	Elma Miess
535A—Lake Tenaya .....	Elma Miess
270A—Desert Twilight .....	Elma Miess
Amiquita (douglasiana) .....	Eric Nies
8172 .....	Tom Craig

The flower arrangements were excellent as usual. The sweepstakes was won by Mrs. Muriel Wright, North Hollywood, with a beautiful arrangement of the spuria variety, Russet Flame, with iris foliage. Second place was won by Mrs. Nan Wolfe, Hollywood, using the douglasiana, Orchid Sprite. There were about fifty arrangements in competition and they were judged by "Mirandy" (Mrs. F. S. Bauersfeld), Helen Doods and Charles Darland. The judges for the specimen and collection iris were Dr. Sydney B. Mitchell of Berkeley, Mr. Carl C. Taylor of San Bernardino and Mrs. Elsie Heimer of Sherman Oaks.

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JENKINSBURG, GA.

The Jenkinsburg Garden Club held its third annual iris show under the auspices of the American Iris Society on April 24. It was the height of the season and many fine blooms were displayed.

The most outstanding iris in the show was a well-grown stalk of Mellow-



glow, exhibited by Mrs. T. T. Patrick. Mrs. Patrick also won first place for the most outstanding arrangement. The arrangement classes of the AIS Bulletin Contest were included in the show schedule. Photographs of the winning arrangements were entered in the national contest. Of special interest in the arrangement section was the class for garden clubs, with each club in the country taking part. The Towaliga Garden Club won first place.

The Bronze Medal of the American Iris Society was won by Mrs. F. W. Childs, who received the greatest number of prize points. Mrs. T. T. Patrick won the second highest number of points but as she is a member of the AIS, the membership award was given to Mrs. H. G. Harris. Mrs. W. J. Saunders won the book, *THE IRIS*, for the third place point total.

Judges for the show were: Specimens—Mr. Harvey Hobson, our Regional Vice-President, and Mr. Milton Blanton, Atlanta; Arrangements—Mrs. Buford Freeman, Mrs. C. E. Biggerstaff and Mrs. Sallie Hawkins, Macon.

The show committee was highly commended by the many out-of-town visitors on the beauty and success of the exhibition. Plans are being made for a bigger and better one next year.

—Mrs. F. W. Childs, President  
—Mrs. T. T. Patrick, General Chairman

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## MIO, MICH.

An iris show of which the residents of Oscoda County and Northwestern Michigan can well be proud was staged by the Mio Irisarians at the Mio Community Building, Sunday, June 13. This was the only accredited iris show held in Michigan this year under the American Iris Society's rules and regulations.

About 1,000 people, including those from six different states, saw the show. Entries were made from Rose City, Standish, West Branch and as far south as East Lansing, Michigan.

The show included commercial exhibits from the Kohler Greenhouse of Barton City and the Gladwin Greenhouse, together with numerous individual displays of flowers and plants. An Oriental Poppy Section was included in this year's schedule and contained some fine specimens.

Mrs. Mildred Randall of Mio was the chairman of arrangements and was assisted by the club officers, Bennett Azer, Shirley Breyton and Devere Dockham, of Mio, and Mrs. Florence Bishop, of West Branch. Mrs. John Mitchell and Mrs. Mae Stevens, of Mio, were in charge of the decorations.

The AIS Bronze Medal for the best entry in the show went to Bennett Azer for an exceptionally well grown bloom spike of Missouri. Other prizes awarded included a one year's membership in the American Iris Society and about \$400 worth of choice irises, Oriental poppies and gladiolus contributed by fourteen commercial growers in various parts of the United States.

A similar show will be held in mid-June next year, and all growers of iris in Northwestern Michigan are particularly requested to watch for announcements.

Among some of the prize iris entered in the show were Great Lakes, Sable.

National Giant, Pink Reflection, Harriet Thoreau, Prairie Sunset, Tiffanja, Tobacco Road, Spun Gold, Golden Treasure, Wabash, Amigo, Ormohr and Elmohr.

Following is a list of the first-prize winners:

Arrangements—Mrs. Ersä Wheeler, of West Branch; Mrs. Iva Schroeder, Mrs. Verne Dockham, Mrs. Charles Smith, Mrs. Mildred Randall, of Mio; and Mrs. W. H. Barton of East Lansing; St. Mary's Altar Society and the American Legion Auxiliary, of Mio.

Iris Specimens (including beardless iris) and Collections; also Oriental poppies—Mrs. Ersä Wheeler and Mrs. Florence Bishop, of West Branch; Mr. William Cummings, Rose City; Mrs. E. Shantz, Fairview; Mr. L. LaMont, Standish; Mrs. W. H. Barton, East Lansing; and Mrs. Mildred Randall, Mrs. Florence Walker, Mrs. John Roder and Mr. Bennett Azer, Mio.

This iris show is of special interest as it is held annually in the most sparsely populated county of the state and in a section where it was thought to be almost impossible to grow iris.

Mrs. C. W. Naas, Detroit, accredited judge of the American Iris Society and Mr. A. W. Steward of the Detroit Iris Society and member of the AIS, judged the show.

—*Bennett Azer, President, The Mio Irisarians*

EDITOR'S NOTE—Speaking of the Mio Irisarians, Mrs. C. W. Naas, one of the show judges, said, "I have never seen a more enthusiastic group. They are growing good iris in pure sand. Mio is a little town of about 500 people, but their show was a large one and well set up in a lovely large community building."

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## NEOSHO, MO.

The annual iris show sponsored by the Neosho Garden Club in cooperation with the American Iris Society—a most successful one—was held May 8 and 9 at the Farm Auditorium of the Court House.

There were forty-three exhibitors, and many fine specimens were shown. All exhibits were displayed in attractive green containers designed and made by the club. Entries from Aurora, Pierce City, Monette and Joplin added to the interest and many visitors were here from towns in the territory.

Special features of the exhibition were a large display of named iris from the garden of Mr. Allen Wild of Sarcoxie and an outstanding display of seedlings grown by Mrs. Walter Gates of Aurora.

The Silver Medal of the AIS was awarded to Mrs. Earl Bowers, Neosho, for receiving the greatest number of points. The sweepstakes bloom was a splendid stalk of Maid of Astolat which was exhibited by Mrs. Albert Henke, entitling her to the one year's AIS membership. Mrs. Carl Wegman, of Aurora, placed first with an arrangement of early bearded iris with other flowers in a triangular arrangement. Mrs. E. E. Witty won first in a free lance arrangement of iris.

Everyone who worked to make the 1948 iris show a success is deeply appreciative of the assistance given them by the community and the American Iris Society. Officers of the club appreciate the number of entries and the work



of the exhibitors and are pleased with the interest in the special arrangements on display. The people both locally and in this territory look forward each year to the annual iris show given by the Neosho Garden Club.

—Mrs. E. E. Witty, *President*

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#### ST. JOSEPH, MO.

Region 18 held its first regional show in St. Joseph, May 22, under the auspices of the St. Joseph Council of Garden Clubs and the American Iris Society.

The Silver Medal of the AIS was won by Rev. David Kinish for receiving the highest number of points in the show. The Bronze Medal for the second highest number of points was awarded to Fred Stock. Dr. H. W. Schirmer won the Silver Cup for the best specimen exhibited, a splendid stalk of *Angelus* with six perfect open blooms. Dr. Schirmer also had the best collection of ten specimen stalks.

The book, *THE IRIS—AN IDEAL HARDY PERENNIAL*, was awarded to the three top winners in the arrangement classes. These were Mrs. Warren Adams, Mrs. George Spalsbury and Mrs. C. J. Feeney.

—Asta Schirmer, *Secretary*

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#### ST. LOUIS, MO.

A most successful iris show, sponsored by the Iris Section of the St. Louis Horticultural Society in cooperation with the AIS, was held May 15 and 16 in the Display House of the world famous Missouri Botanical Gardens. Despite the fact that we had a hard rain on the opening day of the show, estimated attendance was about 10,000. Hundreds of visitors were in line well before the judging was over. St. Louis' first iris show was definitely a treat to flower lovers. The AIS gained many new members.

The Silver Medal of the Society was awarded to Mrs. J. L. Reeves for being grand sweepstakes winner as the result of receiving the most blue ribbons for individual exhibits.

Mr. Clifford W. Benson was awarded the Bronze Medal of the AIS for exhibiting the most outstanding stalk in the show—*Hiwassee*.

Mrs. Walter H. Buxton exhibited a superb collection of Dykes Medal winners, which received much attention.

Many choice seedlings were exhibited. Recommended for Certificates of Commendation were *Gleaming Waters* (plicate) and *Royal Charm* (amoena), shown by Mr. Ellsworth Appel; and *Swan Lake* (sky blue), *Tosca* (medium ruffled blue) and Seedling No. 43-34A (white—tentatively *White Sentry*) of Mr. Clifford Benson.

Dr. C. E. Branch, Piper City, Ill., and Mr. Ralph Schroeder, Warrensburg, Ill., were the judges. The entire show committee was very proud of their efforts and we are hoping for a repeat performance in 1949.

—Clifford Benson, *Show Chairman*

—W. F. Scott, Jr., *Co-Chairman*

## SHREVEPORT, LA.

The rotunda of the State Exhibit Building was beautifully decorated by the Shreveport Iris Society for the iris show which was held April 24 and 25, in cooperation with the American Iris Society.

In spite of heavy rains which preceded the opening, a fine collection of blooms was on display, both bearded and beardless. The focal point of the entire setting was a pool with running water and a rock garden with woodland plants. In the background were oaks and pines with Louisiana gray moss hanging from the limbs of the oaks.

Members of the local society who live in Longview, Texas, displayed a chuck wagon, typical of old ranching days; it was decorated with Texas blue-bonnets.

The Silver Medal of the AIS, given to the exhibitor receiving the greatest number of prize points, was won by Mrs. Walter Colquitt; the Bronze Medal for the best specimen iris exhibited was won by Mr. Ed. Dickinson. Mrs. Milton Trichel exhibited the most outstanding beardless iris in the show, but as Mrs. Trichel is a member of the AIS, the membership award was given to Mrs. S. S. Simon, who was next in line.

The arrangement classes were most interesting and photographs were made of the winning arrangements to be entered in the contest sponsored by the AIS BULLETIN.

Judges were Mr. W. R. Cochran, an accredited judge of the AIS from Dallas, Texas; Mrs. John McInnis of Minden, La., and Mrs. Doris Ocker of Barksdale Field, Texas.

—Mrs. Earl Bellows, Chairman

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## TWIN FALLS, IDAHO

The Twin Falls Garden Club, inspired by its iris committee, sponsored the first meeting ever held in Region 11. Features included our first all-iris show in cooperation with the American Iris Society and a banquet in the evening. The show was held in the Public Library on June 9. Enthusiastic visitors, many from out of town, view the forty-seven classes, and during the entire show there was a noticeable interest among the visitors, many taking notes on varieties.

Mrs. Thomas E. Speedy won sweepstakes and was awarded the Bronze Medal of the AIS. Mrs. John D. Flatt, winning the second highest number of points, was awarded the AIS membership.

To encourage more entries, special cash prizes were given by the Regional Vice-President to the club whose members aggregate the most scoring points. The member who won the most points in each winning club received iris rhizomes from the donor's garden. The Flower Companions, of Castleford, placed first, the Garden Friends, of Buhl, second, and the Emanon Club, of Twin Falls, third.

Iris rhizomes from members of the Twin Falls Garden Club were credited to those persons who, as they registered, drew lucky numbers, with the iris to be delivered at digging time.

Mrs. James Maher, Nampa, Idaho, accredited AIS judge, and Mrs. C. W.



Vallette, of Declo, Idaho, judged the cultural section. Mrs. Rose Williams, Twin Falls, and Mrs. Dave Fox, of Buhl, judged the artistic arrangements.

There were thirteen classes for arrangements, the first four being those of the AIS BULLETIN contest. A photographer was on hand to photograph the winning arrangements which were sent to the contest chairman.

The show committee wishes to thank those who helped to make the show a success.

—Mrs. Sidney W. Smith, Mrs. Hanely Payne, Show Chairmen

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#### VILLA PARK, ILL.

The Women's Garden Club of Villa Park Spring Flower and Iris Show was held June 5 and 6 in cooperation with the America Iris Society. Over seven hundred people attended, with that spontaneous enthusiasm and interest which is indubitably associated with iris. We had visitors from Wisconsin, Missouri, Indiana and Iowa and from towns in the Chicago area and from Chicago.

The Silver Medal of the American Iris Society was won by Mrs. Adolph Ryba, who received the greatest number of points in the show; the Bronze Medal was awarded to Mr. Walter Sir, Lombard, Ill., who received the second greatest number of points. In the artistic classes, Mrs. Frank Carow received the Bronze Medal presented by the Men's Garden Club of Villa Park, and in the horticultural class, Mrs. E. H. Blatter also received the Bronze Medal presented by the Men's Garden Club.

The most outstanding iris in the show was a well-grown stalk of Katherine Fay. Other outstanding varieties exhibited were Snow Carnival, Sunset Serenade, Oregon Trail, Fair Elaine, Elmohr, Miss California, Amandine, Strawberry Blonde, Chantilly, Indiana Night, Blue Rhythm and Ranger.

The judges for the iris section were Mr. Hubert A. Fisher, Hinsdale, Ill., Mr. Richard Goodman, Riverside, Ill., and Mr. Fred E. Bond, Maywood, Ill.

—Mrs. John C. Lessing, President, Women's Garden Club, Villa Park, Ill.

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#### WALLA WALLA, WASH.

Walla Walla may well be called the Iris City, judging by the number and variety of blooms exhibited June 1 at the Braden Equipment Company's show-rooms, in cooperation with the American Iris Society. The show had originally been planned for May 18 but the lateness of the blooming season caused postponement. However many fine specimens were exhibited in spite of a long wet spring followed by a week of very hot weather immediately before the show.

Approximately 900 people attended, this being the first iris show for Walla Walla. It gave the Walla Wallans an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the bloom designated as the city flower. The local society took as their slogan "The Iris City of the West," and Mrs. Grace Sauers, art instructor at Walla Walla High School and Whitman College, designed the insignia to be presented to the city.

The American Iris Society Silver Medal was won by Mrs. Albert Haase for

receiving the greatest number of prize points; the Bronze Medal was awarded to Mrs. J. L. Smith, Waitsburg, Wash., who received the second highest number of points, and Mrs. J. E. Levin received a one year's membership in the AIS for third place. The best specimen stalk in the show was a very splendid stalk of Ola Kala exhibited by Mrs. Otto New.

Some of the outstanding varieties exhibited were Snow Flurry, Easter Morn, Sylvia Murray, Mulberry Rose, Amigo, Monadnock, Lighthouse, Cascade Splendor, Prairie Sunset, Casa Morena, Grand Canyon, Minnie Colquitt, Ola Kala, Brown Thrasher, Melitza, Mary Vernon, Red Gleam and Ruth Pollock.

A special feature of the show was a rainbow made of iris with the "Pot of Gold" at the end of the rainbow from which the public drew for prizes.

About two months before the show the Iris Garden Club published in the newspapers that they were interested in locating the oldest iris in the Walla Valley, with hopes of having it on display before and during the annual iris show. Chivalry was offered for the prize. This award was won by Mrs. Archie Dennis, of Lowden, a small town ten miles west of Walla Walla. Mrs. Dennis relates the following history:

"My grandmother, Elizabeth M. Goodman, brought this small white flag across the plains in a covered wagon in 1862. She planted it in the old cemetery just south of old Fort Walla Walla and it is growing there today." It is the plan of the Iris Society to keep this old iris growing in one of the city parks in memory of the pioneer mothers.

This was our first iris show and we feel it was a success. There is a wonderful spirit of cooperation in our society and we are looking forward to a bigger and better exhibition next year. We received a few AIS memberships during the show and we are hoping to secure more before the year is out.

Dr. Matthew C. Riddle, Regional Vice-President of the AIS, judged the specimen and collection classes and Mrs. Martin H. Johnson judged the flower arrangements.

—Mrs. Otto New, Chairman

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## INCREASING "BLIND" RHIZOMES

It is fairly common experience that a desirable rhizome of bearded iris will bloom and fail to produce any side-shoots, with the result that the plant is lost. The side-shoots arise from buds in the axils of the leaves; and in other plants it has been shown by plant physiologists that the growth of such axillary buds is sometimes inhibited by substances produced in leaves and flowers.

On the basis of this information, my practice has been, when a rhizome behaved in this way, to cut off the bloom

stalk and all the leaves clear to their bases. I am usually anxious to see the flowers, so the cutting has been done immediately after the opening of the first bloom. Perhaps it would be more effective if done earlier. No control experiments have been made, and I cannot present any numerical data, but my impression is that the treatment results in a much higher frequency of lateral shoots than occurs without treatment. It is certainly not always effective—but I believe it is worth trying.

—A. H. Sturtevant, Pasadena, Calif.



## ***In Memoriam***

### **J. Marion Shull**

Mr. J. Marion Shull, artist and botanist for the U. S. Department of Agriculture for thirty years, died at his home in Chevy Chase, Md., on Sept. 1, 1948. His work with iris and hemerocallis is well known to many gardeners.

Mr. Shull was a faithful attendant and sane observer at many of our Annual Meetings, including the Nashville meeting last year. He served as an accredited judge from the earliest days and had been awarded the Society's Distinguished Service Medal. His "Rainbow Fragments—A Garden Book of the Iris" was published in 1931, and though now out of print, is of historical interest because of the beautiful color plates.

It is hard to realize that Mr. Shull's yellow iris, Virginia Moore, received a first Honorable Mention from the AIS in 1920, and that his Morning Splendor was awarded the Gold and Silver Medals of the Garden Club of America in 1926, even before the Dykes Medal was in existence. It was the most noted of his group of trojana seedlings and received A. M.'s in Holland and England in 1931. It was a rich red-purple of distinction, and though probably not now extant, has few if any successors. His interest in line breeding preceded the present trend and his irises are rarely recorded in current pedigrees.

An outstanding botanical artist, Mr. Shull recorded Bruce Williamson's early hybrids of regelia, onco and pogon parentage. This experience led to his own genetic interest in breeding. His accomplishments were another example of what can be done in the smallest of back yard gardens. We shall miss his benign smile at our future meetings.

—*R. S. Sturtevant*

### **Ferdinand Cayeux**

Presumably because I am perhaps the only American iris grower still living who has met Ferdinand Cayeux and visited his nursery at the height of his fame, I have been asked to write a tribute to him and his work. He passed away in Paris during his eighty-fifth

year on the 27th of last September. I had no other personal acquaintance with him and only know that he was the head of a seed firm on the Quai de la Megisserie, Paris, with a nursery at Choisy-le-Roi, on the outskirts of that city. The specialties of the firm were apparently iris and dahlias.

In May, 1930, as members of a party of English iris enthusiasts organized by Geoffrey L. Pilkington, my wife and I made two visits to see M. Cayeux's irises, and later, in company with Franklin B. Mead, we returned a third time. M. Cayeux was growing seedlings on a large scale though in a relatively compact area. We carefully inspected all the named varieties, selections, and new seedlings in his company and that of his foreman, M. Bonvallet, who carried the books of very complete parentage records, from which he read any record we wanted. Never before had I seen such an astonishing number of outstandingly good irises and seedlings, very well grown in long raised rows. Among the best then in flower were Anne Marie Cayeux, Evolution, Jean Cayeux, Depute Nomblot, Claude Aureau, Helios, and Marquita. While we were there we were shown the fine big blend he had named President Pilkington and he gave the name of Professeur S. B. Mitchell to a rich and distinctive red-purple which I admired. In later years he sent out many other fine irises, such as the very distinct plicata, Seduction; Sensation, a fine pure blue; Mme. Louis Aureau, Louvois, and others. Geoffrey Pilkington, in a paper in the *Iris Year Book*, 1930, summed up the reasons for the great success of M. Cayeux—he went in for the business thoroughly and on a very large scale, he knew a good iris when he saw it, and was fully alive to any shortcomings in his own seedlings. In the rich dark flowers of which Depute Nomblot and Louvois are examples we have the evidence of much Bruno influence, but he succeeded in getting away from the clubby stems of the Dominion race. After his beginnings, he worked almost exclusively with his own seedlings and from them achieved among others the then best lines of grayish slaty blends, cafe-au-lait selfs, and plicatas. The yellows in his nursery in 1930, such as Soleil d'Or and Helios, seemed quite outstanding, but the later productions of American breeders rapidly outclassed these early yellows, and his fame will rest on other colors.

The influence of his seedlings on American breeding has been very important. Just to suggest some lines, Helios was in the parentage of my Naranja, and hence in its descendant, Rocket; Jean Cay-



eux entered into the early breeding of Dr. Kleinsorge and without it we could hardly have had Tobacco Road and its progeny; Sensation is in the parentage of Chivalry and other fine blues, and Jean Marie Cayeux was, I know, an important parent of some of Carl Salbach's introductions. Without the use of Seduction and Mme. Louis Aureau many modern American plicatas might not have been raised: Mr. Knowlton's Suzette and my own Love Affair are just examples. The English made less use of the Cayeux introductions in their breeding, but I know that Mr. Long's High Command, claimed to be the best variagata raised in England, came from Louvois X Eternal City. In Italy, Contessa Mary Senni used his introductions in her breeding, particularly in the pink and red lines.

As we met him on three occasions I have always remembered him as a genial, lively man, looking far younger than his 66 years, deeply interested in his breeding and perfectly ready to tell other breeders how he got his best things. His attitude in inviting his foreman to join his guests in a glass of champagne after hours spent among the irises was characteristically French and democratic. He seemed a happy human being as well as a great iris breeder.

—Sydney B. Mitchell

## **L. Merton Gage**

The death of Mr. L. Merton Gage of Natick, Massachusetts, at the age of 82, on November 25, 1948, after a long, severe illness, grieved the iris fraternity and his many other friends. An active member of the Society for many years, he was dean of iris hybridizers in the New England area.

Throughout his long life Mr. Gage was always actively interested in flowers. He originated and introduced many gladioli before his activities in iris began. He was a member of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and an honorary member of both the New England Gladiolus Society and the American Gladiolus Society. He was formerly secretary of the American Gladiolus Society and recording secretary of the New England section of the American Iris Society.

After his retirement from business he devoted all his energies to iris activities and his garden. The fruitful results of his hybridizing are perhaps best summed up in a partial list of his intro-

ductions: Allumeuse, Anna Gage, Arethusa, Atrous, Aureate, Barbara Ellen, Barkrest, Brown Bonnet, Cahita, Chief Sidar, Chestnut Hill, Damerine, Doris M. Taylor, Edith Lowry, Edna Hicks, Ethelyn Kleitz, Fenella, Gloriole, Greig Lapham, Gypsy Maid, Hazel Gallagher, Honeyball, Hylephila, Katherine Gage, Lady Gage, Lady Letty, Lady Priscilla, Marilyn O'Connor, Mary Lee Donahue, Miriam Corey, Natalie Balcom, Purple Giant, Red Bonnet, Rosy Wings, Silvanus, Snowcrest, Sulphur King, Sweet Janice, Tanager, Tarasca, The Pearl, Tyrian Beauty and Wamba. He received many awards for this work, including the Dykes Medal for Rosy Wings in 1939, the Massachusetts Horticultural Society Bronze Medal in 1932, the Award of Merit of the Royal Horticultural Society in 1942 and the medal of the American Iris Society for Achievement in Hybridizing in 1943. The complete list of his H.C., H.M., and A.M. awards is quite extensive both in years and in numbers.

Of his own originations, he was fondest of Gloriole and the new yellow self, Greig Lapham, just introduced last year. The latter is named for his friend and fellow hybridizer, Mr. E. Greig Lapham, who in turn had named his own pink seedling L-8, L. Merton Gage, for him. One of his greatest disappointments in iris was his yellow self, Mary Lee Donahue, which was introduced in 1935. This promised to be and performed like a very fine iris for two years but since then it has had an erratic performance record like Coralie.

Mr. Gage's personality, his humor, his generously shared talents have influenced and enriched many of us. Always a kindly, loyal, lovable, friend, may the fond place he has left in our memories and in iris lore always remain reserved for him and him alone.

—Jamison R. Harrison.

## **J. D. Long**

One of the most unforgettable characters in the iris world has finished his work in this earthly garden. J. D. Long died at his home in Boulder, Colorado, December 5, 1948. For nearly fifty years his seeds, plants and bulbs have gone out to brighten thousands of gardens all over the country. And just so has the beauty of his life radiated widely to glow in the hearts of his countless friends.

"J. D." was born near Mason City, Iowa, in 1873. Here he attended a school taught by Herbert Quick, who became his life-





"J. D." and Elmohr

long inspiration. Later, at Cedar Falls Teachers College it was found that his lungs could not stand the Iowa climate so he transferred to the University of Idaho and then taught in Moscow. In 1898 he went to Boulder, Colorado, where by 1905 he had established "Long's Seed Store," which soon developed into one of the largest mail order houses in the West—made famous by his original, humorous and instructive catalogs. He was one of the proponents of the modern idea of personalized advertising. His name and his homespun philosophy became familiar all over America.

In 1912 he offered an extensive list of gladiolus and became very prominent in the glad world. In 1941 the New England Gladiolus Society gave him their Gold Medal for Distinguished Service, noting especially his great gift for teaching their culture through wit and wisdom. In January of 1948 the American Gladiolus Council awarded him their Bronze Plaque in recognition of his wide influence in this field.

By 1918 Mr. Long's interest in iris was so great that he offered a fine list of varieties, a few years before the organization of the American Iris Society, which he joined in 1925. His son, Everett C. Long, a Life Member, has been associated with his father in business since 1934, and will carry on his work. "J. D" will always be remembered in the iris world for his introduction of the now famous Elmohr from Dr. Loomis's garden, and the beautiful white iris, Jake, from the hand of Jacob Sass. But those who knew him well best remember his genial and lovable personality.

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#### A REAL GARDENER

I am enclosing my check for a year's membership in the AIS, and I wanted to tell you that I have grown flowers since I was a very small child and have taken them to all the old people in my neighborhood. Now I am teaching my twelve grandchildren to love flowers as I do. Last fall I planted sixty or more new iris and I can hardly wait till spring to see them bloom.

—Mrs. Lloyd Wyckoff,  
Birmingham, Mich.

*Flowers to Old People!* There is something about the gift of a flower quite unlike the gift of other things. A flower is veritably the height of nature's handiwork. There is an inherent beauty that cannot be missed even by the most callous, a beauty that could well have been fashioned by divine hands. In bringing those flowers to your older friends you have opened the door for them to many things—appreciation of the beautiful, certain-

ly, friendship and happiness, perhaps. And what is more important, Mrs. Wyckoff, in so doing you have reached down and lifted yourself by your own boot straps.

*Twelve Grandchildren!* No one who has learned to love flowers, to work with them, to smell the freshness of spring in newly turned earth or finally by one's own efforts to create and bring into bloom such a truly wonderful thing as a flower, can have much time for bad thoughts or bad deeds. Your twelve grandchildren have a valuable teacher, a teacher who can give them something that money cannot buy. We envy you the opportunity.

*Sixty New Iris!* We know that eagerness, as gardeners everywhere must know it. It is a sign of perpetual youth, Mrs. Wyckoff, and you will never grow old while it lasts. We believe you have hit upon some of what might be called the eternal truths—appreciation of beauty, charity in the true sense, and hope. We wish for you an endless succession of springs.—G. D.



# 1948 REGIONAL PERFORMANCE RATINGS

L. F. RANDOLPH, (N. Y.)

*Chairman, Scientific Committee*

The task of computing the ratings from scores submitted by the 174 participating judges was undertaken by the Rating Techniques Committee of which Professor E. L. Clark is chairman. Judges had been asked to record scores before and during the 1948 blooming season for each of 9 traits of 70 varieties. To test the validity of this method of determining regional performance, ratings were computed for 17 of the varieties most frequently scored by the judges in 5 representative regions. These data are summarized in the accompanying table.

In this table the number of scores submitted by the judges and the regional rating of each variety are listed together with the combined average for the 5 regions. These 5 regions represented a wide diversity of growing conditions ranging from the northern climate of Region 1 in New England through the Regions 9 of Illinois and Region 18 of Iowa, Missouri and Kansas to Region 17 of Texas and Oklahoma and Region 15 of Southern California.

Pronounced regional preferences were exhibited by certain varieties such as Los Angeles and China Maid, which were highly rated in their home state of California but received only average or less than average ratings elsewhere. The range in ratings given China Maid was from 74 to 88 and for Los Angeles from 76 to 89. Other varieties such as Sable and Christabel gave an average performance in each of the 15 regions, the ratings for Sable varying within narrow limits from 81 to 84 and those for Christabel varying from 83 to 86.

Outstanding performances in all 5 regions were established by the varieties Great Lakes with ratings ranging from 86 to 91, and Ola Kala with ratings from 86 to 90. Apparently, the exceptional ability of these varieties to adapt themselves to a wide variety of growing conditions contributed very appreciably to the popularity which has enabled them to maintain consistently high Symposium ratings in recent years.

Additional Regional Performance Ratings will be published in the April BULLETIN.

VARIETY	REGION 1		REGION 9		REGION 15		REGION 17		REGION 18		Combined average, 5 regions
	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	
Amigo .....	10	82	11	88	13	75	16	81	11	86	82
Blue Shimmer .....	8	82	15	81	13	81	12	82	16	89	83
China Maid .....	9	74	9	70	16	88	15	78	16	76	77
Christabel .....	9	86	13	85	11	83	14	83	14	83	84
City of Lincoln .....	9	82	9	75	11	83	14	73	14	81	79
Elmohr .....	7	79	13	75	14	87	16	82	18	76	80
Fair Elaine .....	10	79	9	71	16	80	13	78	12	80	78
Golden Majesty .....	7	81	6	75	16	89	16	85	12	84	83
Great Lakes .....	11	86	16	86	15	91	16	89	15	91	89
Gudrun .....	8	82	14	81	8	85	16	81	15	84	83
Los Angeles .....	7	84	11	80	14	89	16	85	14	76	83
Ola Kala .....	8	86	13	90	11	87	15	88	17	88	88
Prairie Sunset .....	7	75	10	80	12	83	15	78	16	80	79
Sable .....	9	82	16	84	15	82	12	83	16	81	82
Snow Flurry .....	9	77	12	77	15	86	15	81	10	79	80
The Red Douglas ....	7	82	9	76	9	83	14	82	14	79	80
Wabash .....	9	87	13	81	15	77	16	81	15	77	81

These performance ratings represent the average of separate scores given by the judges on 9 traits—hardiness, vigor and floriferousness of the plant; color, form and substance of the flowers; strength, branching and proportion of the stalk. They are based on 100 as a perfect score.

## SOUTHERN (CALIFORNIA) HOSPITALITY!

Region 15 extends to all Annual Meeting visitors an invitation to visit Southern California gardens while en route to Portland.

If you plan to come, write Mr. Eric Nies, 1423 Kingsley Drive, Hollywood 27, Calif. (Telephone number: Normandy 2-6102.) He will be very happy to find Motel accommodations for you. As our gardens are widely separated, it will be best for visitors to be centrally located, so that transportation may be furnished all who need it.

The height of our blooming season is near the end of April (we hope), and that will give you time to travel up the coast to Northern California gardens and thence to those in southern Oregon before going on to Portland for the convention.

—Mrs. Otto Stuetzel, Regional Vice-President



# BEARDLESS AND SPECIES IRIS

## Committee Report

In response to our questionnaire published in the April, 1948, BULLETIN, replies by postcard or letter were received through September 6 from the growers listed below. To facilitate the use of information as to who grows species, the communications have been arranged under the various sections alphabetically by state and city. There are so few that it is possible to refer back to the individual grower from the mention of state and city given below. As most of the replies came in during our iris season, the chairman was frankly too rushed to acknowledge them at that time. He therefore wishes now to thank these members for their cooperation, their information and their enthusiasm. In due time we hope to publish material on all species grown in the U. S. and Canada, but in the meantime we shall appreciate more replies from members growing species.

—*Sydney B. Mitchell, Chairman*  
*633 Woodmont Ave., Berkeley 8, Calif.*

### Species Growers—All Amateur Unless Otherwise Specified

#### ALABAMA

Auburn—W. A. Gardner, Box 751

#### CALIFORNIA

Berkeley—Sydney B. Mitchell, 633  
Woodmont Ave.

Fall Brook—Mrs. David K. White,  
Rt. 1, Box 260.

Hollywood—Eric Nies, 1423 N. King-  
sley Dr.

Inglewood—Mr. and Mrs. R. W.  
Luhren, 945 N. Inglewood Ave.

Redlands—Rev. Ed. H. Brenan, 15  
Clifton Court.

Van Nuys—Lyon Iris Gardens (Com-  
mercial), 7041 Woodman Ave.

Walnut Creek—Mrs. Frances Reis, 10  
Crest Rd., Piedmont.

#### ILLINOIS

Belleville—Mrs. F. O. Reh, R.F. 2,  
Box 237

#### KANSAS

Independence—Mrs. Ida St. Helens,  
1212 North Fifth St.

#### MASSACHUSETTS

Gardner—Thelma G. Barton,  
15 Minott St.

#### MISSISSIPPI

Coahoma—Mrs. Reuben Sawyer

Grenada—Mrs. T. B. Revell, Jr., 334  
Third St.

#### MISSOURI

Aurora—Mrs. W. A. Gates, 414 W.  
College St.

Kansas City—C. Allen Harper, 7300  
Brooklyn

#### NEBRASKA

Omaha—Mrs. Edgar J. Irving, 4612  
Saratoga St.

#### NEW MEXICO

Albuquerque—A. W. Mackenzie, *c/o*  
New Mexico State Bank

## NEW YORK

Rochester—R. W. Hewes, 28 Wilton Terrace  
Snyder—Hollandia (George L. Mac-Alevy), (Commercial), 378 Huxley Dr.

## OHIO

Cincinnati — Mrs. Clarence Rittenhouse, 1031 St. Claire Ave., Mt. Healthy

## OREGON

Boring — Walter Marx Gardens, (Commercial)

Junction City—Mrs. John G. Day, Rt. 1

Lake Grove—Gerber Gardens, (Commercial), South Shore Rd.

## WASHINGTON

Pullman—Jean G. Wilt, 506 Morton.

Seattle—Summit Iris Gardens, 13251 Ambaum Blvd.

## CANADA

British Columbia—Trail, Kenneth M. McKee, 2044 Riverside Ave.

Quebec — Montreal, F. Cleveland Morgan, Colonial House

## Where Species Are Grown

### BULBOUS IRISES

#### 1. *Reticulata* Section

CALIFORNIA — Walnut Grove. MASSACHUSETTS — Gardner. MISSISSIPPI — Coahoma, Grenada. NEW MEXICO—Albuquerque. NEW YORK — Rochester, Snyder. OREGON — Boring. WASHINGTON — Seattle. CANADA: BRITISH COLUMBIA — Trail, QUEBEC — Montreal.

#### 2. *Juno* Section

CALIFORNIA — Berkeley, MISSISSIPPI—Grenada. MISSOURI — Kansas City. NEW MEXICO—Albuquerque. NEW YORK — Snyder. OREGON — Boring. WASHINGTON — Seattle. CANADA: BRITISH COLUMBIA — Trail, QUEBEC — Montreal.

CULTURAL NOTES—Mr. C. A. Harper, Kansas City, says he bought two *I. vicaria*, one *I. bucharica*. All grew and bloomed in late March; set three seed pods. Mr. George L. Mac-Alevy, Snyder, N. Y., writes, "I am growing successfully *I. orchioides*, *I. bucharica* and *I. vicaria*; this last is a real gem. The petals of frosty white carry a pronounced band of clear blue on the median line. It is the most

floriferous of the three. *Orchioides* rarely bears more than two flowers to the plant. I have selfed, crossed and tried all ways but cannot make any of the three set seed. I would like to combat the feeling that *Junos* are so hard to handle. Of course you can't transplant them whenever the urge strikes you, but if you give them a good stiff soil and leave them alone they perform quite nicely. Anyone who can grow lilies should be able to grow *Junos* as their care and handling are very similar, their degree of fragility being about the same."

#### 3. *Xiphium* Section

ALABAMA—Auburn. CALIFORNIA — Berkeley, Fall Brook, Inglewood, Redlands. MISSISSIPPI — Coahoma, Grenada. MISSOURI—Aurora, Kansas City. NEBRASKA — Omaha. NEW YORK—Rochester, Snyder. OHIO — Cincinnati. OREGON—Boring, Junction City. WASHINGTON—Pullman, Seattle. CANADA: BRITISH COLUMBIA—Trail, QUEBEC—Montreal.

CULTURAL NOTES—It is not always clear just what is grown; with the exception of reports from California (Berkeley), New York (Rochester),







Ohio (Cincinnati), Oregon (Boring) and Washington (Seattle), where both Dutch and English are specified, it is assumed only the Dutch are being grown. Mr. George L. MacAlevy, Snyder, N. Y., writes, "I have well established a couple of the Dutch varieties and Wedgewood; this last is the most dependable as well as the handsomest." Mr. C. Allen Harper, Kansas City, Mo., reports that most of the four dozen Dutch irises he got from a local seed store grew, but died back without blooming. They were potted inside in February and set out in April after last frost.

#### 4. *Evansia* Section

ALABAMA — Auburn (fimbriata (japonica), tectorum, cristata). CALIFORNIA—Berkeley (fimbriata, tectorum alba, cristata), Fall Brook (wattii, Nada, tectorum), Inglewood (tectorum), Redlands (fimbriata, wattii, tectorum), Van Nuys, Walnut Creek (fimbriata, tectorum alba, cristata). ILLINOIS — Belleville (tectorum, tectorum alba, Paltec). MASSACHUSETTS — Gardner (cristata, cristata alba). MISSISSIPPI — Coahoma, Grenada. MISSOURI — Kansas City (fimbriata, cristata). NEBRASKA — Omaha. NEW MEXICO—Albuquerque (cristata). NEW YORK—Snyder (tectorum, Paltec). OHIO—Cincinnati (tectorum, cristata). OREGON — Boring (all species). WASHINGTON—Seattle (fimbriata, tectorum, cristata). CANADA: BRITISH COLUMBIA—Trail, QUEBEC—Montreal.

**CULTURAL NOTES** — The chairman reports that in California all *Evansias* are hardy outdoors; even *I. fimbriata*, its relatives and hybrids thrive in shade along the coast where temperature rarely drops below 27. Mr. C. Allen Harper, Kansas City, Mo., writes, "Japonica did well indoors until early March; left garage door open and they died from exposure at about 40. *Cristata* planted in shade gave good growth but no bloom."

#### 5. *Pardanthopsis* Section

ALABAMA—Auburn. CALIFORNIA — Fall Brook, Inglewood, Walnut Creek. KANSAS—Independence. MISSISSIPPI — Grenada. MISSOURI — Aurora. NEBRASKA — Omaha. NEW MEXICO—Albuquerque. NEW YORK — Rochester, Snyder. OREGON — Boring. WASHINGTON — Pullman, Seattle. CANADA: BRITISH COLUMBIA — Trail, QUEBEC—Montreal.

**CULTURAL NOTES** — Mr. George L. MacAlevy, Snyder, N. Y., reports he cannot keep *I. dochotoma* over winter.

**BEARDLESS IRISES**

#### 6. *Sibirica* Subsection

- (a) *I. sibirica*, *I. orientalis* and their varieties or hybrids
- (b) Other species, including *I. chrysographes* (*I. wilsoni* and *I. forrestii*)

ALABAMA—Auburn. CALIFORNIA — Berkeley (a & b—*chrysographes*, *delavayi*, *forrestii*, *laevigata*, etc.), Fall Brook (a), Inglewood (a), Redlands (a), Van Nuys (a), Walnut Creek (a & b — *chryso-forrestii* and *forrestii*).

## ← CALIFORNIA SPECIES

Unidentified native irises collected in Humboldt County, California, by Mrs. H. N. Hansen, and grown in her garden at Lafayette. Both are cream colored. "The clump on the right may be a variety of *douglasiana*," writes Mrs. Hansen, who made the attractive picture.



ILLINOIS — Belleville (a). MASSACHUSETTS—Gardner (a). MISSISSIPPI — Grenada (a & b). MISSOURI — Aurora (a). NEBRASKA—Omaha (a & b). NEW YORK—Rochester (a & b), Snyder (a & b)—*delavayi* & *laevigata*. OHIO—Cincinnati (a). OREGON—Boring (a & b), Junction City (a). WASHINGTON — Pullman (a), Seattle (a & b—*wilsoni*). CANADA: BRITISH COLUMBIA—Trail (a & b), QUEBEC—Montreal (a & b).

CULTURAL NOTES — Mr. A. W. Mackenzie. Albuquerque, N. M., reports that *sibirica* doesn't like this climate. Mr. George L. MacAlevy writes from Snyder, N. Y., "I have various Siberian varieties which grow profusely here. *Delavayi* and *laevigata* flourish for me. Both are in low spots where drainage is poor."

#### 7. *Miscellaneous Beardless Irises*

- (a) *Kaempferi*
- (b) *versicolor*, *pseudacorus*, etc.
- (c) *unguicularis*

ALABAMA — Auburn (a, b—*versicolor*, *pseudacorus*, *ensata*). CALIFORNIA—Berkeley (a, c), Inglewood (a, b—*pseudacorus*, c — *unguicularis* *maginata* and *alba*). ILLINOIS—Belleville (a, b — *pseudacorus*). MASSACHUSETTS — Gardner (a, b—*pseudacorus*). MISSISSIPPI—Grenada (a, b, c). MISSOURI — Kansas City (a). NEBRASKA — Omaha (a, b). NEW MEXICO—Albuquerque (b—*versicolor*, *pseudacorus*, *virginica*, *ensata*, *setosa*). NEW YORK—Rochester (b), Snyder (a, b—*pseudacorus*, *setosa*, *versicolor*). OHIO — Cincinnati (a, b—*versicolor*, *pseudacorus*). OREGON—Boring (a—200 varieties, b — *pseudacorus*, c). WASHINGTON—Pullman (a, b—*pseudacorus*, *setosa*), Seattle, a, b—*pseudacorus*, *setosa*). CANADA: BRITISH COLUMBIA—Trail (a, b), QUEBEC—Montreal (a, b).

CULTURAL NOTES—Mr. C. Allen Harper, Kansas City, Mo., says, "Planted 8 clumps of *Kaempferi*; 3 are making feeble growth. Planted by outside hose outlet where they get plenty of water." Rev. E. H. Brenan, Redlands, Calif., writes, "Last year *Kaempferi*, grown in semi-swamp, were badly faded. Gave them several inches of barnyard and color was fine this year, very lovely." Mr. George L. MacAlevy writes from Snyder, N. Y., "The *Kaempferi* do poorly. Natural soil ph is around 7.5, which may explain why. *Versicolor*, *pseudacorus* and *setosa* do very well."

#### 8. *Spuria Subsection*

- (a) *spuria*, *ochroleuca*, *monnieri*, *aurea* and their hybrids
- (b) *graminea* and other small species

ALABAMA — Auburn (a — *ochroleuca*, *monnieri*). CALIFORNIA — Berkeley (a, b), Fall Brook (a — *aurea*, Golden Nugget, Lord Wolsey), Hollywood (a—species and own hybrids, b — *graminea*), Redlands (a — named varieties and own seedlings), Van Nuys (a—Nies seedlings). ILLINOIS—Belleville (a — *ochroleuca* and named varieties). KANSAS — Independence. MISSISSIPPI — Grenada. MISSOURI—Aurora (a—*ochroleuca*). NEBRASKA—Omaha (a & b). NEW MEXICO—albuquerque (a — *ochroleuca* & seedlings). NEW YORK—Snyder (a — *ochroleuca*). OHIO — Cincinnati (a). OREGON—Boring, Junction City (a—*spurias*). WASHINGTON — Pullman (a — *ochroleuca*), Seattle. CANADA: BRITISH COLUMBIA—Trail, QUEBEC—Montreal.

#### 9. *California Subsection*

- (most Pacific coast natives, including *douglasiana*, *innominata* and *tenax*)

CALIFORNIA — Berkeley, Hollywood, Inglewood, Van Nuys, Walnut Creek. MISSISSIPPI — Grenada. NEBRASKA—Omaha. NEW YORK—Snyder. OREGON—Boring, Junction City. WASHINGTON — Seattle. CANADA: BRITISH COLUMBIA—Trail, QUEBEC—Montreal.

CULTURAL NOTES — Mrs. Edgar J. Irving, Omaha, writes, "Many coast species, including innominata, bloom well."

#### 10. *Longipetala* Subsection

(longipetala, missouriensis)

CALIFORNIA—Berkeley. KANSAS—Independence. MISSISSIPPI—Grenada. MISSOURI — Aurora. NEBRASKA — Omaha. NEW MEXICO — Albuquerque (a dozen forms of missouriensis). NEW YORK—Rochester. OREGON—Boring. WASHINGTON — Pullman. CANADA: BRITISH COLUMBIA —

Trail, QUEBEC—Montreal

#### 11. *Hexagona* Subsection

(includes Louisianas)

ALABAMA — Auburn (hexagona). CALIFORNIA — Berkeley (Cacique, Louisianas), Fall Brook (fulva, fulvala, Dorothea K. Williamson), Hollywood (species and own hybrids), Inglewood (species and hybrids), Redlands (species and hybrids), Van Nuys (Louisianas), Walnut Creek (fulva). ILLINOIS—Belleville (fulva, Dorothea K. Williamson and unidentified varieties). KANSAS—Independence. MISSISSIPPI —Grenada. NEW YORK — Rochester (hexagona), Snyder (Dorothea K. Williamson). OHIO — Cincinnati (species and hybrids, Delta blues and Abbeville reds). OREGON—Junction City. WASHINGTON — Pullman (vinicolor and seedlings), Seattle (fulva). CANADA: BRITISH COLUMBIA—Trail, QUEBEC—Montreal.

## IRIS WORLD'S LARGEST COLLECTION

Over 2200 Varieties, including choice of the older and most of the newer varieties. Choice importations from Australia, Canada, England, France, Holland and New Zealand available.

### FREE CATALOG—

If we don't have your iris variety we will attempt to secure it for you. IRIS is our BUSINESS.

Also Poppies, Peonies and Perennials

**Geiser's FAIR CHANCE FARM**  
Box 11                      Beloit, Kansas



# 1949 K. D. SMITH INTRODUCTIONS

HELEN COLLINGWOOD. A truly brilliant creation in the neglecta class. Well branched 40 inch stalks with light lavender standards and brilliant violet purple falls. Entirely different from anything in existence. 4 branches, late midseason. \$30. NET

KEENE VALLEY. This sister seedling of Blue Valley was selected by a prominent English judge as the most outstanding blue that he had ever seen. It has most outstanding substance, the flowers are large and its stalk well branched, 42 inches in height. A more graceful refined edition of Blue Valley. \$30. NET

RED WITCH. A red with yellow influence that blooms in early midseason while other reds are only in bud. Its well branched stalks grow up to 48 inches in height with the size of the flowers being in perfect proportion. \$20. NET

ANACONDA COPPER. An especially aptly named iris. Very coppery with velvety copper falls. Sister to Fall Days and Fort Ticonderoga. 32 inches. \$15. NET

LIBERATOR. The choice of a former President of the English Iris Society who suggested the name Constellation, the type of plane which flew him across the Atlantic to my garden. Its standards are lemon-chrome and brilliant, the falls are edged the same color with a white overlay in the haft. A stunning creation. 35 inches. \$15. NET

GOLDEN DAYS. This ruffled brilliant yellow self has large flowers, but it is only 30 inches in height. As a foreground planting en masse it holds the center of the stage and nothing can compete against its brilliancy. \$10. NET

COLLECTION OF ABOVE SIX 1949 INTRODUCTIONS  
AGGREGATING \$120. for \$100.

# PREVIOUS SMITH INTRODUCTIONS

FORT TICONDEROGA (1948). A glowing, brilliant orange-red. Outstanding. 36 inches \$20.

HIS EXCELLENCY (1948). A larger improved Louvois. Very rich and dignified. 36 inches \$12.50

SEA GULL (Ilse Smith 1948) Large ruffled flaring white, beautifully branched. Outstanding as an exhibition stalk and a garden clump. 42 inches. \$15.

BLUE VALLEY (1947). Medium blue self with flaring falls that has been widely acclaimed as "very blue" both here and in England. 40 inches \$18.

FALL DAYS (1947). A reddish-copper bicolor, really a symphony in rose and gold. Cannot be surpassed as a clump. 43 inches \$15.

MARION VAUGHN (1947). A soft lemon-ice with a white flush below the beard. The green midribs accentuate the coolness of the attractive flowers. One of those breath taking iris! Medium size rhizomes. 36 inches. Double rhizome \$15.

STATEN ISLAND (1947). A very bright variegata that many judges consider tops in its class. 38 inches \$12.50

ADMIRATION (1946). Late, smooth medium yellow self. Outstanding. 40 inches \$8.

EDITH RORKE (1946). A blue and white plicata that has great garden value. Extra fine as a clump. 40 inches \$6.

ELEGANS (1943). A soft pale yellow or cream that has received commendation because of its great garden value. 35 inches \$3.

LAKE GEORGE (1945). The parent of Blue Valley and Keene Valley. Very, very blue in the garden. 38 inches \$5.

THIS ADVERTISEMENT SHALL BE MY ONLY IRIS LIST FOR 1949. NO CATALOGUE WILL BE ISSUED FOR 1949.

TERMS: Cash with order. No orders accepted after July 20th as I sail for England around August 1st. Iris will be shipped around July 15th by parcel post, special handling to insure fastest delivery.

*Kenneth D. Smith*

BENEDICT ROAD, DONGAN HILLS  
STATEN ISLAND 4,  
NEW YORK





## GO WEST, YOUNG FAN

If you want to get started quickly in the iris game, it might not be a bad idea to move to fabulous California.

Recently we've exchanged data with Mrs. Mildred Lyon, of Van Nuys, regarding the rate of increase of iris rhizomes. Naturally we expected that in California the number of offshoots produced would be nothing smaller than colossal, but when Mrs. Lyon casually mentioned a single plant of Rocket with 36 increases on it, our awed silence must have been taken for doubt. Soon came pictorial proof (above) with this explanation:

"I had the rhizome of Rocket lifted, washed and photographed. Instead of 36 increases, I find that by counting those below the soil level there is a total of 41. They are all around the rhizome and therefore not all visible in the picture. Some are no bigger than a small pea and others range up to half-grown size.

"While we were about it I found a wonderful specimen of Green Pastures with 16 offshoots. This isn't too out of the ordinary, but the increases were just perfect all around the rhizome, so it was photographed too."

Adding to our envious agony, Mrs. Lyon continued:

"Cherie and Fantasy are blooming in our garden now (Nov. 26). Fantasy didn't bloom last spring at all, but Cherie did and is blooming again now. Wouldn't it be great if Cherie turned out to be a fall bloomer in California? Both have fine stalks and blooms. Fantasy came out four blooms at a time, while Cherie has two at once. Hence Cherie is blooming longer, but Fantasy really makes a show with all four blooms showing."

At about the same time, a letter arrived from Fred E. Taylor, of Altadena.

"'Winter-Blooming Iris.'" he wrote, "the title of Caroline Dormon's article



in the October BULLETIN, led me to go into our garden to take stock of "Winter-Blooming Iris" in Altadena, California. Ours are regular bearded irises.

"We—my daughter, Mrs. Grace Taylor Mortensen, and I—have a row of 24 clumps, 12 varieties of our winter-bloomers. On this 17th day of November I found 29 full blooms on 13 different clumps of 7 varieties, ranging from one to four blooms on a clump. Buds were not counted.

"The varieties in bloom today are Creamy Loveliness, Pink Skirts, Pearly Loveliness, Striped Beauty, Autumn Snow, Glowing Ember and Golden Candelabra.

"These irises are now being grown in Sacramento, California, in Kansas, in England and in New Zealand. We are waiting with much interest to hear from those growing them elsewhere."

From his eminence—Mt. Washington

—in Los Angeles, artist Tom Craig sent the following cheery message just before Christmas:

"On this hill there aren't ten days in a year that you can't pollinate iris. Right now (Dec. 15) I've large blocks of Berkeley Gold, Sousum, Sultan's Robe, Lady Mohr, Hall 44-50. Joseph's Mantle, Coritica, etc., all in fine winter flower. They will all flower again in spring. Radiant, China Maid, Tiffany, Flora Zenor and Mt. Washington all flower here a second time in winter, as do many of their seedlings. This winter-flowering goes right into the onco and onco-hybrid season, for already Ib-Mac, Joppa Parrot and some of the pure oncos show the characteristic thickening of the fans that will bloom."

Oh to live in California! All this, and snowstorms, too!—S. Y. C.

## TAPPAN

(Cybele X Great Lakes)

A tall, medium blue with large, well formed flowers, semi-flaring falls; good stalk though slightly top-branched. While TAPPAN is not a world-beater, it is a good garden iris that brings a new strain into the breeding for blues. Seedlings we have bloomed from it are both interesting and varied. Some have as clear and rich a "blue" color as any that we have seen. Stock limited. Price: \$10 per rhizome.

**F. W. CASSEBEER**

RFD, Orangeburg, N. Y.



## **Varied Activities Fill a - - -**

### *Busy Year in Region 11*

MRS. SIDNEY W. SMITH, (IDAHO)

*R. V. P., Region 11*

It has been a fairly active year for some 67 members in Region 11, what with answering questionnaires, going to meetings, staging shows and visiting gardens, cooperating in symposiums, and showing increased interest in hybridizing.

The first project for the season was to send out last spring to the membership a questionnaire on location of gardens, number of varieties, what kinds of iris were grown, what methods of disease and pest control used, what was the chief interest in iris, and other allied questions.

From the answers received from 37 members and interested members of local garden clubs, a directory was compiled, giving a brief sketch of each member's iris activities. This survey, a copy of which was mailed to each member, served to acquaint members with one another and to give an over-all view of the region as follows:

1. We grow mostly the tall bearded varieties in amounts ranging from less than 20 to over 1000 varieties, with the majority growing between 100 and 400 varieties, but we also grow the following: (figure in parenthesis indicates number reporting) dwarfs (17), intermediates (18), Siberians (6), spurias (4), bulbous kinds (8), other species (7), Louisiana natives and their hybrids (6), Japanese iris (4).

About fifteen of us have become interested in hybridizing due in part to the Iris Hybridizing Round Robin started last year by Mrs. C. W. Vallette, Declo, Idaho. She now directs five such Robins in and out of the region.

2. Methods and materials used in disease and pest control include burning off in early spring, solutions of either Permanganate of Potash or of Bichloride of Mercury; sunshine, sulphur, gypsum, rhizome surgery, spraying with DDT; Blackleaf 40.

3. Besides iris the members grow roses and chrysanthemums, mixed perennials and rock plants, hemerocallis, daffodils, glads,

peonies, lilies, delphiniums, phlox, Oriental poppies and annuals in that order of preference. French hybrid lilacs, clematis varieties and evergreens also please.

4. In all parts of the region various members are building collections of slides. A number keep bloom-date records and many belong to garden clubs and exhibit at shows. The principal interest in collecting tall bearded iris is for garden purposes as well as for show use, arrangements and hybridizing.

5. The spring symposium covered iris that had performed well for three or more years. The leaders in three price groups were Miss California and Lighthouse in the lower price range; Grand Canyon and Wabash in the middle or \$1.00 to \$3.50 group, and Mulberry Rose in the higher or over \$3.50 class.

### **Regional Meeting**

The second objective in regional affairs concerned the regional meeting at Twin Falls June 9, sponsored by the local garden group in connection with its first all-iris show (the club's ninth annual spring flower show and second under AIS auspices) at the city library. As full reports of these have been sent in, I will not go into detail except to say that the affairs were deemed a success. Although the iris were past their peak, forty-two exhibitors showed over 240 entries in all but one of 47 scheduled classes in arrangements, specimen stalks, collections and seedlings.

The Declo Garden Club, in a community of 300, held its first flower show June 11, without judging. To interest the public in the beauty of iris, Mrs. C. W. Vallette reports that, assisted by Mrs. M. Clayville and Mrs. Annie Gierisch, she entered a specimen stalk, labelled and classed, in each of about 50 color classes. With the exception of a few of the newer varieties shown, the iris, so entered, were the standard and popular sorts; yet they were such a wonderful improvement over the small-flowered types generally known there that show visitors were favorably impressed. This display, along with arrangements and bouquets of iris, Mrs. Vallette says, tended to highlight the iris as the floral queen of the season and with exhibits of peonies, early roses and miscellaneous spring flowers, combined to give much interest and enjoyment to over 120 visitors from Declo and nearby towns of Rupert, Heyburn and Burley. The club hopes to repeat its show next year on, perhaps, a more ambitious scale.



Shows were also staged at Caldwell, Emmet and Moscow, Idaho.

In early September Mr. and Mrs. Harry O'Brien and their son, David, stopped in Twin Falls as guests of the local garden club. Speaking before an evening audience of over 300 persons at the high school auditorium, Mr. O'Brien delivered an interesting lecture, illustrated from his collection of colored slides, on "New and Better Flowers for the Dirt Gardener." Improved varieties of seven or eight classes of flowers including iris, were shown. A clump of a Hall flamingo pink seedling iris left the audience breathless! Also seen were the American Dykes Medal iris from Wabash (1940) on, as well as the present day contenders for the award. Mr. O'Brien was glad to see quite a number of AIS members in the audience.

Several members in Idaho (Emmet, Shoshone and Twin Falls) are collecting Dykes Medal iris. The local iris committee has started a planting at the city park. These collections are not yet complete. But Mrs. Vesta Saban of Hyattville, Wyo., writes that, after five years of effort, she and her friend, the late Mrs. Frances Chapin, have assembled a complete collection (Eng., American and French) of Dykes Medal winners. Mabel Chadburn, Margot Holmes and Olympio took two long years to obtain. The English varieties were imported twice. Olympio was finally located in Tennessee. A year ago they had them all, Mrs. Chapin planting and caring for the plants as they arrived.

It is with deep regret that we learn now of the death of Mrs. Chapin last winter. She was wholly immersed in iris. Living near the Sass brothers in her youth, she had visited their gardens many times and gained much iris knowledge. She had been a member of the American Iris Society since 1944. The Dykes collection has been moved to a friend's garden.

### Garden Visits

Garden visiting might be considered our third regional activity. The gardens at Nampa, Idaho, hold not only many of the latest introductions but also are producing some fine seedlings, due to the efforts of Miss A. M. Blakeslee and Mrs. W. C. Fox. Mrs. James Maher and Mrs. L. D. Harris are also catching the hybridizing fever. Among the commercial varieties noted were:

Coloratura (DeForest) —brighter than Bryce Canyon.

Garden Glory (Whiting) —liked better than Ranger.

Lady Mohr (Salbach)—perfect in every way except perhaps its odd color.

Lake Breeze (Fay)—a desirable light blue preferred next after Mirror Lake.

Mirror Lake (Muhlestein)—a glorified Azure Skies, taller and more ruffled. “The last word in a light blue. Swell!!!” says Mrs. Mary F. Tharp.

At Payette, Idaho, Mrs. Tharp, whom we all know, has a fine array of unusual seedlings. Her Scotch Lassie, a better Spring Idyl, and Idaho Skies, a light blue, flushed white (like clouds) were especially noteworthy.

At Nyssa, Oregon, just across the Snake River (the state line) and between Nampa and Payette, is the large garden of Mrs. Glen Suiter. Newer varieties seen include Mellowglow, Bryce Canyon, Lake Breeze, Suzette, Rocket, Deb’s Delight and Cool Lemonade. Mrs. Suiter is also raising some promising seedlings. Blue Champagne, a Gloriole seedling, and Mima, a rose plicata, are highly regarded.

The raging floods last May in the northwest failed to stop Mrs. Ralph Nelson, Coeur d’Alene, and her friend from taking a somewhat hazardous auto trip along the Columbia River to inspect the Oregon and Washington iris fields. Among the newer iris Mrs. Nelson particularly noted were Auburn, Sunset Blaze, Gold Ruffles, Melody Lace, Fairy Blush, Lake Shannon, Danube Wave, Desert Song, Mexican Magic, Miobelle and Selah.

In Mrs. Nelson’s own garden Carlsbad Caverns, a Moonlight Madonna type with fine substance and stout stems, and National White, tall, large and rain resistant, were standouts.

Several members visited the Muhlestein gardens at Provo, Utah, and came back with deep impressions of Nightlife, Gold Ruffles, Golden Symphony, The Showman, and The Bearded Lady, the last, one of the “new” pinks (all Muhlestein originations).

At Declo, 50 miles east of Twin Falls, we saw Mrs. Vallette’s iris — 1000 or more varieties grown in rows on their 5-lot home place in town.

Starting six years ago with a small collection of popular kinds Mrs. Vallette rapidly expanded her plantings to the point now where she feels forced to discard older varieties, especially since she has recently taken up hybridizing. Her iris labels caught our



eye. They appear to be stout wooden stakes 20 inches long and 1½ to 2 inches wide. The names are printed on with a wood-burning set and the stakes then waterproof varnished.

From Declo we hear that Flaming Fire (Sass) is a large red with broad falls clear of reticulation.

Mrs. Margaret Clayville of Burley sees personality as well as garden value in her iris. A few of her observations:

Ballet Girl—dances on tip-toes with bright and airy effect.

Madame Louis Aureau—close-up, gives friendly feeling.

Castalia—common yet nice, like your middle-aged friendly neighbor.

Lighthouse—needs distance to be effective.

Inspiration—also needs distance; close-up seems awkward, floppy.

The Red Douglas—outstanding when he behaves himself.

Elmohr—What an iris!

In the Walker garden at Kimberly (7 miles south) the following were noticed:

Cedar Rose—large flower of brown rose, not tall.

Frosty Blue—tall light blue, fine branching.

Sheriffa—flowers medium size, medium height, metallic purple.

The Capitol—magnificent, tall white, brilliant wide orange beard.

Vatican Purple—large full bodied flowers, tall, fine in a clump, smooth blue-purple.

In Mrs. Thos. Speedy's garden, Twin Falls, we saw Hall's Hit Parade on a one-year plant. A pale apricot pink, the flower is large, the stem about 30 inches, with numerous buds.

In other local gardens we noted:

Blue Shimmer (Sass)—a large white ground plicata with almost blue stippled border.

Casa Morena (DeForest)—large flower, rich henna brown, medium stalk.

Fantasy (Hall)—this red bearded orchid-toned iris expands the second day.

Inspiration (Stevens)—large smooth deep rose. Stem tends to lean.

Lluvia de Ora (DeForest)—bright orange-yellow opens tall bearded season.

Snow Carnival (Graves)—flower form is tops. Wish it were taller with more buds.

Spindrift (Loomis) the purple veins tend to make it unattractive.

Violet Symphony (Smith)—a larger Violet Crown slightly subdued in color.

In addition to taking part in civic and regional affairs the Iris Committee of the Twin Falls Garden Club held four meetings during the year. At the fall meeting members were asked to bring comments on new and/or older iris, some of which were:

Arctic—effective with arbor vitae background. Enjoyed from the house.

Garden Flame—for redness Jerry was liked better.

Ola Kala—distinctive, sturdy; liked for its wonderful pure deep yellow color.

Prairie Sunset—held up well, stayed in bloom a long time (2-year plant), good with evergreens.

Solid Mahogany—rainy weather may have dulled its color; not bright like color plate.

Spring Chimes—large golden tan; well spaced flowers made good impression.

White Goddess — flower reminds one of a white orchid. Husky grower. From a single division planted 4 or 5 years ago it produced 15 stalks this spring. Clump resembled a huge snowball.

### A Fall Symposium

Now that we've come through the gardens, we'll take up the fourth enterprise for the region, the Fall Symposium. In August letters were sent out to the membership to list on an enclosed return card, 25 iris old and new, seen in 1948 and best liked for garden effect. Forty-three members turned in a total of 348 different varieties. Sixty-three varieties received 5 or more votes and were counted in the symposium with Great Lakes (25), Sable (23), Grand Canyon (21), Elmohr (20) and Ola Kala (19) the leaders. Mirror Lake, one of the newest iris received 5 votes.

Now for a few regional notes:

From northwest Montana Mr. Harold Odle of Rollins sends word that Lent A. Williamson blooms in the fall.

Mr. H. N. Metcalf of the College of Montana at Bozeman informs us that the college is reestablishing its nursery, and while it is concerned with woody plants at present, he hopes soon to



include perennials. The college once maintained a collection of 200-300 varieties of iris but because of lack of funds for upkeep during the depression the collection was destroyed. The AIS BULLETIN, Mr. Metcalf says, will keep the college in touch with new developments in iris.

Notes from Wyoming tell that Mr. Hugh MacKinnon of Laramie is adding species to his iris garden.

Mr. Oliver Summers, also of Laramie, states that weather (and perhaps high altitude, 7,280 feet) plays a large part in determining the peak iris season—anywhere from June 20 to August 1.

From Casper, Mrs. J. W. Yant, recently of Indiana, writes she is starting a new garden from scratch. With the background in (evergreens, flowering crabs, shrubs, species roses) she is commencing on the borders; she plans for all-season bloom with iris as the mainstay. A permanent group of iris contains Angelus, Mata Hari, Mary E. Nicholls and Lavender Mist.

At Sheridan Mr. Kenneth Moore, who grows 3000 seedlings, is interested in hybridizing dwarf iris at present.

Additional notes from Idaho:

Mr. A. A. Steel, orchardist at Parma, states that, "Thorough spraying with a big orchard outfit using full 5 degree Baume strength of lime-sulphur has no effect upon leaf spot, our worst disease." To avoid duplication of iris varieties, Mr. Steel discards the poorer iris of each pair of nearly identical varieties. Mr. Steel also spreads the beauty of iris by distribution of his surplus iris roots. At planting time he fills baskets with an assortment of varieties and has them delivered to families living on the new farms and homesteaders' claims on the nearby Black Canyon Project. Other members are giving their surplus to parks and cemeteries.

Mrs. Margaret Meyers, Buhl, has increased her iris planting of 200 to 400 varieties and has made some interesting color combinations of iris which will bear watching next year.

The bees apparently were not there or else unable to cause any crosses in Mrs. Thomas Speedy's garden as the only pods in sight were those which were hand-pollenized.

In closing we wish to extend an invitation to all AIS members as they trek to and from Portland next year, to stop and visit gardens in Region Eleven.

## *Robins' Roost*

*Quite unknown to many of our members, dozens of enthusiastic little circles of iris fanciers keep up lively year-round correspondence among themselves, swapping accounts of garden experiences—along with a bit of personal “small talk,” perhaps—and having a great deal of fun out of it. These are the groups known as Round Robins.*

*“Robins' Roost” is a new department in which the BULLETIN will run excerpts from some of the circulating letters.*

*Mrs. C. W. Vallette, Declo, Idaho, has been instrumental in collecting the first material for this department. Feeling that some of our members may be interested in joining an iris Round Robin, we asked Mrs. Vallette to write the following explanation of how they are organized and run.—Ed.*

Every Round Robin is composed of ten members, one of whom acts as director. A director may handle one or several Robins. To begin with, the director writes an introductory letter, telling about him- or herself—the family, hobbies, etc.—and giving an introduction to the subject. This is mailed on to the next member. The introduction, along with the Robin custom of using first names instead of more formal titles, is to foster a feeling of friendliness and informality which otherwise would be hard to bring about in a group of people who have never seen each other and who probably never will. The director also encloses a route list, planned to give the most direct flights from one member to the next, so that each one knows to whom to send the Robin. Each writes a letter, encloses it with the others and sends the Robin on its way. When it returns to the director after completing a flight, she removes her first letter, writes another and sends the packet on its second round. Her action is repeated by the members, in turn, and flights keep up as long as interest is sustained.

There are no requirements for joining, except an interest in the subject. Rules are very simple. The most important is to *be sure to send the Robin on within 5 days of its receipt*; members lose interest when flights are not completed within a reasonable length of time. The next most important rule is to *be sure to send your*



*director a courtesy card*—just a postcard telling to whom the Robin was sent and when. This enables her to keep track of the Robin and simplifies tracing in case a packet of letters is lost.

The only other rules are to be sure to pay all postage fully, so that nobody has to pay due postage, and to keep the letters somewhere near the subject. Since members join primarily to gain information, letters on other subjects should be sent as personal communications outside the Robin. Keep letters friendly; this is the main charm of membership. Nobody enjoys reading a dry-as-dust Robin wherein everyone is terse and business-like, but writers should not wander too far off the subject.

Until recently Iris was one of more than 100 subjects in the Robins sponsored by *Flower Grower* magazine, under the direction of Miss Marion Thomas, 1518 Kemble St., Utica 3, N. Y. But the Robins outgrew their nest and *Flower Grower* put them on their own, still under Miss Thomas' management. Until this was done no charges were made, but now that the Robins must be self-supporting, Miss Thomas asks that dues of \$1.00 per year be sent to her. These dues cover a year's membership in any number of Robins, on almost any imaginable garden subject.

I myself direct a number of Robins on Iris Hybridizing, and applications to join these may be sent direct to me, without any dues. It is not necessary even to be a member of the AIS, although this is desirable, and in the Hybridizing Robins almost a necessity, since so much valuable information on the subject appears in the BULLETINS. In fact, I strongly recommend that all my members join, and many have done so.

Perhaps a plan can be worked out by which Robin letters of special interest or value can be included in the BULLETIN. Possibly the Society could take the Iris Robins under its official wing as some of the other flower societies have done with their Robins. A page or so occasionally from the many "little fellows" might add personal interest to go along with the wonderful articles from the big name contributors. Who knows?

—Mrs. C. W. Vallette, Declo, Idaho

\* \* \*

*In line with Mrs. Vallette's suggestion, Iris Robin directors are invited to send the BULLETIN interesting items from their letters.*

*Single, "meaty" paragraphs on one subject are especially acceptable. Be sure to give the name and address of the writer.*

*Here are examples of what we like:*

#### STORING POLLEN

The main point in keeping pollen is to keep it dry and cool, and away from strong sunlight. I have settled on a very easy procedure: I gather the anthers and dry them off thoroughly and rapidly in open dishes in a warm room; then I write the name on a small glassene envelope, date it and set it under the dish. As soon as the pollen is thoroughly dry I put it in the envelope and clip it with ordinary paper clips, along with envelopes of pollen parents of similar character. For example, all onco pollen together, all plicata pollen together, all tangerine-beard pollen together, etc. This makes an easy system where you have hundreds of envelopes to take care of.

Dating is important, so you won't use pollen that is too old. All of these envelopes I keep in a dessicator, which is made as follows:

Take a large, broad-mouthed glass jar, fill the bottom half-inch with calcium chloride and press a cardboard disk, cut a little bit larger than the jar, down against this to hold it in place. Crumple a paper towel and pack over this, and then keep your envelopes of filed pollen in this and keep the container in a dark, cool place. Pollen will often keep three months or more, and that only six weeks old is almost always as viable as when it was freshly gathered.

—Tom Craig, 910 Rome Drive, Los Angeles 31, Calif.

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IRIS GARDENS  
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JOHN NASH OTT, JR.

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### How to Grow Iris

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*In Iris—*

A few charming new Dwarfs.  
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The best and most vigorous Tall Bearded.

Some new Sibericas and Spurias.

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SPECIAL COLLECTIONS IN  
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Peonies—Brilliant new  
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SEND FOR NEW '49 LIST



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## WALTER MARX GARDENS

Iris for the border, rockery and that shady spot. Send for illustrated catalogue listing all types of bearded, choice Japanese varieties, rare reticulata and juno species and lovely Western natives.

BORING, OREGON

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We grow several strains of Iris—Bearded, Japanese, Siberian, English, Dutch and Spanish and the new strain King Iris. A list and information on request.

## CHAUTAUQUA

## FLOWERFIELD

GREENHURST, NEW YORK

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### EARLY GERMINATION

Most iris from Dave Hall — also Easter Morn, Caroline Burr and mesopotamica—all give seed that germinates the first year. Mr. Hall is said to throw away all seed that does not come up the first year, which is why his iris tend to give early germination. Seed of the Mohrs usually takes two years to come up; those that germinate the first year are apt to be plain bearded, with few or no onco characteristics. To date, most seedlings of Elmoehr and Lady Mohr are very undistinguished, being straight bearded in type.

### RIPENING SEED

If stalks with pods on are accidentally broken off at least a month after the pods are started, they will usually develop sound seed if put in a dry container or laid on a shelf or window sill to dry; do not put the stalks in water, as they rot and the seed fail to develop properly. (Some members have reported ripening stalks successfully in water.—Ed.) There is enough

strength in the stalk to ripen fully-developed seed. Open the pods as soon as ripe and air the seed, being sure it is thoroughly dried before storing, so that it will not get moldy. But if a little mold does show up, due to too early storing in closed sacks, treat the seed with Semesan in a liquid solution, being sure to dry it well before putting back into the sacks. The mold may possibly make them germinate slower, but proper treatment may save the seed, if given in time.

—*Tell Muhlestein, Provo, Utah*

\* \* \*

### PREMATURE GERMINATION

Last year I stored part of my new seed in 1-pound coffee cans on the back (west) porch, where it's pretty hot in August. About two weeks later I opened them and nearly every seed had sprouted, since they were just out of the pod and full of moisture. This might be a way of treating Mohr seed to get it to sprout the first year, at least in warmer climates where the seedlings won't get winter killed before they have time to become well rooted.

—*Kenneth Moore, 1040 So. Thurmond, Sheridan, Wyo.*

\* \* \*

### ALTERING BLOOM SEASON

Oncos bloom 2 to 4 weeks ahead of tall bearded iris, and the hybrids often have no pollen, so that they cannot ordinarily be crossed. Any controlling for simultaneous bloom must be done ahead of time. Late bloomers can be grown on the south side of a building, and early ones on the north of a fence, or under trees, to alter their blooming season. Or late ones may be potted and brought indoors to force into earlier bloom. Also, artificial water-

ing given to early kinds in a dry spring may cause vigorous growth and delayed flowering compared to plantings that are dryer. Late set rhizomes usually bloom later their first year, too, than established ones; and bud development is retarded on plants sprayed with alpha-naphthalenacetic acid. Growers in mountainous regions may plant early kinds one to two thousand feet higher than late ones, so their bloom will more nearly coincide with that of later ones grown at lower altitudes. Too, the more plants one has of a kind and the more different conditions under which they are grown, the better the chance that one or two will bloom when they are most needed. Some clumps could even be covered with boxes or baskets for part of the day in spring to delay buds. It is not so important to have both parents bloom at the same time if both have

plenty of pollen, but if reciprocal crosses are wanted (crosses made both ways), or if hybrids or other kinds with no pollen are being used, both must bloom at once to be of any use.

—Lloyd Austin, Placerville, Calif.

\* \* \*

## HYBRIDIZING RECORDS

I have a notebook 7½" x 6½", and put all data into it, giving a page or so to each variety I intend to use in crossing. On these pages I put the chromosome count, parentage, notable children, any special characteristics of offspring, whether it has pollen, and if so, whether it is fertile or poor in quality, whether it sets seed well or with difficulty, etc. If I get seed, I record how many in each pod (of course, I keep track of the crosses on these pages, too), how many germinated and if they took 1 or 2 years to do

# GRAY'S Iris Borer Eradicator

eliminates iris borer 100% from your iris. First application must be made as soon as iris starts growth and in accordance with directions on bottle. Send your order in now together with remittance. No C.O.D.'s please.

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## IRIS TEST GARDENS

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it, and later—when seedlings bloom—their characteristics. I also note down what was the aim of each cross, so I can later check and see how near I came to getting it.

Seed from Miss California and Glowport often take 2 years to come up, but I like Glowport as a parent; it gives lovely smooth reds of good size and branching, with velvety texture. I like old Valor too, though it has no pollen, as it gives good size, clean hafts and long, strong stems. The seed germinates usually the first year.

—Mrs. M. F. Spaide, 110 Penna. Ave., Lewistown, Penna.

\* \* \*

### HYBRIDIZERS' EQUIPMENT

When I go out to make some crosses, I tie a clothespin bag around my waist. In it are tweezers, tags and a pencil with a small notebook in which to jot down

the crosses; also several empty penny matchboxes to put pollen in. This way I have everything within reach, so there's no time lost looking for something I laid down when I made the last cross, and forgot to pick up again.  
—Mrs. Melva Moon, Star Route, Santa Barbara, Calif.

\* \* \*

### ROT TREATMENT

When my iris get rot in them, I scoop out the infected places with an old tablespoon and pour a solution of one tablespoonful potassium permanganate dissolved in one gallon of water over the wound, using an old teapot. This is strong enough to make the angleworms wriggle and hurry out of the ground, but it doesn't hurt the iris.

—Mrs. Ralph Nelson, 906 Foster Ave., Coeur d'Alene, Ida.

# President's Report

Television in color may not be too far away, and with this in mind I am propagating several varieties of iris to use in some novel mass effects of color harmony that might look well when seen through this medium. Think for a moment what one of our Annual Meetings might look like televised in full color! How I wish that it might be available for next May's Northwest Pacific meeting! For undoubtedly we will see more magnificent masses of glorious iris color in these huge plantings than at any previous gathering of the Society.

I am leaving the Presidency after two years of fruitful endeavor, and I use the word "endeavor" advisedly, because a number of projects that we have started are still unfinished business. The new classification of irises is a case in point. It has been widely heralded as well nigh perfect, but any scientist knows that any set classification needs constant revision to keep up to date. We are studying, and will continue to study the needs for further revision with the help of geneticists and taxonomists who have volunteered to do this arduous work. The immediate results of the adoption of our new classification are becoming apparent to everybody — a renewed interest in the true Intermediates and Dwarfs and a re-firing of interest in the wider crosses which promise so much to the future of iris breeding.

The Regional Performance and Merit System of rating iris is still in the experimental stage, not yet to be made official. Certain very valid conclusions can be drawn from the mass of evidence now at hand, and these conclusions will be duly presented to you through the pages of the BULLETIN from the Scientific and Rating Techniques Committee. From the comments I have received on this subject so far, it would seem that many judges consider it their God-given right to judge an iris in any way they please, totally regardless of what standards have been set up by the Society in the way of values to be assigned each important characteristic of the flower and plant. As you know, our judges are appointed with little knowledge of their ability to be critical, impartial and iris-wise. A "Manual on Judging Irises" is badly needed, and perhaps a "Judging School" or some sort of practical examination to be



required of each judge might be in order. These are procedures that are routinely carried out in the live stock and pet stock fancies, and might be equally applicable to the iris fancy. When one judge sends in a 100% rating on an iris that fifty other judges rate between 75 and 86 there's something wrong in the former's optimism. Perhaps it's nothing more than three Mint Juleps, but the point is clear.

The method of computing the Symposium is another matter of concern to many of us. An outstanding new variety of iris should work up into the top brackets of this list "inch by inch" as its superiority to other varieties in its color class became apparent the country over. The "balanced rating" system instituted this year for the first time would seem to guarantee this gradual process. Only with this system can the Symposium give a true picture of the ascendancy and decline of iris varieties in the constant flux of superiority that perennially takes place.

What pleases me most in my administration though, is the fact that the Society has been "opened up" so to speak, so that the lowliest new member can have his say through the pages of the BULLETIN or even with the Directorate! We have tried earnestly to answer all questions that have come to us, and I am sure have built up a great deal of good will by so doing. Many have been the times when I have stayed up till 2 A. M. or even later, answering mail (sometimes from 3 to 10 letters a day) concerning special problems of the Society, many of which would have been unnecessary if the letter-writers had read their BULLETINS carefully.

The new By-Laws Amendments were carefully thought out for several months by our Organization Committee. That they have passed by an almost unanimous vote justifies my faith in the judgment of the membership as a whole. No one has to look farther than his monthly grocery bill to see that the AIS needs to increase its dues a little. That it doesn't have to go much higher is due to the economy practised in the Central Office. I know — I've been there and watched the goings-on! It's a well-oiled business machine we have running!

Among the many other projects started during my administration the Beardless and Species Iris Committee under Dr. Mitchell has started off with a bang! How many hundreds of these forms of iris there are that can grace our gardens! We become farther and

farther from being a "Tall Bearded Iris Society" as these species become better and better known.

What pleases me most about my short administration is the hundreds of new contributors to the BULLETIN and to the policy-making officers of the Society. New ideas coming in by the fistful. . . . Garden clubs gradually awakening to the possibilities of iris programs. . . . A tremendous increase in calls for the AIS slides. . . . A new Motion Picture detailing "How to Grow Iris"—by John Ott. . . . Dealers once lukewarm to the AIS now pushing it with all their vigor and enthusiasm.

It has been a heart-warming two years in office. I count on the fingers of ten hands the new friends made the country over. I can say with Audubon that "I have spared no time, no labour, and no expense" in endeavoring to improve the iris game as I see it. I shall rejoice if I seem to have in any degree advanced the knowledge of so delightful a study as that which has occupied me as an intense hobby the past few years. I shall watch with pleasure the fruits of my labors, in the years to come.

—*Franklin Cook, M. D., Evanston, Ill.*

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## 1948 REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

On December 5, 1948, President Franklin Cook sent to the membership of the AIS a ballot sheet listing three proposed changes in our By-Laws. At the same time he wrote a letter explaining these changes. This letter was necessarily very brief and your Secretary would like to call to your attention the first of these changes and offer more detailed information concerning its advisability. The By-Laws set the dues of the Annual Member at \$3.00 per year, and this constitutes the chief source of income of the Society.

After receiving the billing on the October, 1948, BULLETIN, a preliminary check of the income and the disbursements for the year was made at the Central Office. Not all of the bills were in, but the situation was such as to demand immediate attention. Dr. Cook came to Nashville in November and forthwith took steps to prepare the proposed amendments which were subsequently offered to the membership for approval.



The final statement for the year prepared by the Treasurer, Mr. E. G. Lapham, bears out the findings of the preliminary check. In 1948 our cash balance dropped from \$6,184.74 to \$2,051.60, a loss of \$4,133.14 in working capital. This represents a small loss on the year's operations, the payment of a 1947 balance and capital invested in salable inventory on hand November 1, 1948.

The question is naturally raised as to why it is necessary to increase the dues for 1949? The answer lies in the fact that while the expenses of most firms and organizations advanced in 1948, this advance will not be felt until 1949 by the AIS. Our BULLETIN contract was the same as in previous years. Our printer actually lost money on the contract and has advised us of a necessary raise in BULLETIN cost for 1949. Then again, we have been using up supplies purchased in former years. These will have to be replaced by items costing more than the original. Also, certain duties that have been performed on a voluntary basis by our members will have to be done by our paid staff in the future. This will necessarily add to our expense.

We have found from experience that merely increasing our membership does not altogether solve the problem. More members require more work, more BULLETINS and more correspondence. The AIS has a certain amount invested in bonds. This is an accumulation from the sale of Life and Research Memberships and certain profits derived from previous operations such as the sale of the Check List. Your officers and directors believe that this fund should be protected for emergency or special use and not dissipated in small amounts to cover yearly deficiencies. In other words, the Society should take in as much each year as is needed to maintain its operations. The way to meet expenses and accumulate working capital without curtailing activities and decreasing the size of the BULLETIN seemed obvious—a small raise in dues.

A poll of the directors and Advisory Committee revealed that sentiment favored increases of from 50 cents to \$1.00. Subsequent estimates indicated that the lower figure would provide adequate funds.

The following statement, based on figures from Mr. Lapham's report, reflects correction of 1948 disbursements to cover 1948 items only. To this has been added the value of items on hand in inventory which were paid for in 1948. The result is a fairly accurate "profit and loss" statement for the year.

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS, AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY, 1948

Disbursements (see Treas. Report) .. .. .	\$20,993.37	
Less items accrued in 1947 ( " ) .. .. .	1,888.71	\$19,104.66
Receipts 1948 (see Treas. Report) .. .. .	\$16,739.58	
Salable items paid for in 1948 (see Inventory Report) .. .. .	1,562.00	
		<hr/>
		\$18,301.58
		<hr/>
		\$ 803.08
Less capital invested in permanent office supplies .. .. .		260.90
		<hr/>
Net loss for year .. .. .	\$	542.18

\* \* \*

INVENTORY—Stock on Hand, American Iris Society, Nashville, Tenn.

November 30, 1948

Cash and/or checks on hand .. .. .	\$	0.00	
Stamps and envelopes .. .. .		70.07	\$ 70.07
		<hr/>	
*Salable BULLETINS (1488) estimated cost—38c.....	\$	565.44	
**THE IRIS (paper-bound) (232) @ 1.00 .. .. .		232.00	
**THE IRIS (cloth-bound) (728) @ 1.50 .. .. .		1,092.00	
Check List (including Supplements) (624) @ 2.00...		1,248.00	
Extra Supplements (78) @ 30c .. .. .		23.40	
		<hr/>	
Total Salable Items .. .. .			\$ 3,160.84
Permanent Office Supplies (typewriter, files, duplicator, etc.) @ cost .. .. .			260.90
			<hr/>
Total .. .. .			\$ 3,491.81
*Partially paid for in 1948			
**Paid for in 1948			

\* \* \*

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CURRENT ASSETS

Cash on Hand .. .. .	\$	2,051.60
Cleveland Union Terminal Bond .. .. .		1,000.00
U. S. Treasury 2 3/4 .. .. .		2,000.00
U. S. Series "F" .. .. .		7,400.00
Accrued Interest .. .. .		263.00
Inventory November 30 .. .. .		3,491.81
		<hr/>
Net Worth .. .. .	\$	16,206.14

—Geddes Douglas, Secretary



# 1948 REPORT OF THE TREASURER

## Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements for the Year Ending November 30, 1948

### SUMMARY

BALANCE — December 1, 1947 .....	\$ 6,184.74
Receipts as listed below .....	16,739.58
Bond Interest .....	110.00
Savings Account Interest .....	10.65
	<hr/>
	\$23,044.97
Disbursements as listed below .....	20,993.37

BALANCE — November 30, 1948.....\$2,051.60

### RECEIPTS:

Annual Memberships .....	10,839.00
Triennial Memberships .....	272.00
Sustaining Memberships .....	20.00
Life Membership .....	50.00
Research Memberships .....	125.00
English Iris Society Memberships .....	153.90
Advertising .....	430.25
Sales of Back BULLETINS .....	83.00
Sales of Check Lists .....	283.50
Credits, Overpayments, Postage .....	50.61
Sales of Manuals .....	4,382.52
Mailing Lists sold .....	36.00
Photographs sold .....	10.00
Back Issues of English Iris Year Book .....	3.80

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\$16,739.58

### DISBURSEMENTS:

Publishing BULLETIN	
Editorial Services .....	\$1,300.00
Printing, Mailing, etc. ....	7,703.73
	<hr/>
Rent .....	260.00
Executive Secretary .....	1,300.00
Stenographic and Clerical .....	2,705.75
Office Equipment, Postage, etc. ....	1,824.25
Executive Sec. Traveling Exp. ....	80.56
Committee Expenses:	
Exhibition .....	\$ 292.80
Registration .....	78.08
Beardless & Species .....	75.89
Scientific .....	198.69
Slides .....	10.00
	674.77

Iris Manual .....	4,437.54
Collection, Exch., & Refunds .....	64.20
Bonus to Mrs. Clark .....	200.00
Advertising .....	56.25
Transferring Supplies, etc., Washington to Nashville....	72.71
Storage on Check Lists and Transferring to Nashville ..	89.61
Regional Expenses .....	122.00
Refund to Society for Louisiana Irises .....	102.00
	<hr/>
	\$20,993.37

\* \* \*

Certain explanations should be made, as follows:	
(a) On account of the delay in getting vouchers through at time of moving Secretary's office to Nashville a number of items that should have been charged to 1947 were not paid in time for the 1947 report — made on a <i>cash basis</i> .	
We list: Executive Secretary's Salary for Nov. 1947 .....	\$ 200.00
Stenographic and Clerical Services for Nov. 1947.....	225.00
Rent for Nov. 1947.....	20.00
Office Expenses for Nov. 1947 .....	73.32
Postage for November, 1947 .....	5.50
October 1947 BULLETIN (paid for in Jan. 1948) .....	1,164.89
(b) Bonus to Mrs. Clark, paid in Jan. 1948, but applying to 1947 and previous years .....	200.00
	<hr/>
	\$1,888.71

INVESTMENTS AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 1948

<i>Description</i>		<i>Face Value</i>	
The Cleveland Union Terminals Company's 1st Mortgage			
Sinking Fund Gold Bond 5½% Series A, due April 1, 1972.....		\$	1,000.00
U. S. A. 2¾% Treasury Bonds due June 15, 1954/51.....			2,000.00
			<hr/>
			\$ 3,000.00
		<i>Purchase Price</i>	<i>Maturity Value</i>
4	U. S. Series "F" Bonds 1944.....	\$ 2,960.00	\$ 4,000.00
4	Do 1945.....	2,960.00	4,000.00
2	Do 1946.....	1,480.00	2,000.00
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Increased value over purchase price \$263.00.			
		\$ 7,400.00	\$10,000.00

—E. Greig Lapham, Treasurer



## COMMERCIAL DIRECTORY

All of the dealers listed below are members of The American Iris Society. If you are buying Iris for your garden, it should be your particular pleasure to make your purchases from the dealers who have worked with and supported your Society. Your officers and directors invite your special attention to this list. They also ask a favor. When you order, tell the dealer you saw his name in the BULLETIN and do him a favor by not asking for a catalog unless you mean business.

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W. E. Taylor, 2310 Sierra, Torrance, Cal.  
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Hybrid Seed from Choicest Crosses

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**THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY**

444 CHESTNUT STREET

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# BULLETIN

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# It's Here Again

The warm breath of Spring sweeps over the countryside; the grass is green and the flowers bloom. Iris time again!

In the garden it's good to see old favorites unfold their buds . . . even better to watch for first flowers on those "must haves" we decided to buy last year.

Most thrills — and disappointments, too, perhaps -- come to those who have new seedlings flowering. Whether it's a dozen plants in a back yard row from chance pollinated seed or an acre of bloom from carefully recorded "blue-blood" crosses, you're never quite sure what will turn up. So eagerly you scan the new blossoms each morning, hoping to find a future Dykes medalist among them.

Good hunting!

Frontispiece: Kenneth Smith surveys thousands of colorful blooms in the seedling area of his noted garden at Dongan Hills, Staten Island, N. Y.

Gottscho-Schleisner photo

# Jewels of Spring

MELVIN G. GEISER, (KANS.)

Snow is falling and it is 10 degrees below zero today as I write this memo to Spring. There is something that causes the lover of iris to look well into the future at this time of year. Out come all the catalogs and much perusing and study is effected over the colored pages, the descriptions, and the prices! However, fortunately to one who is mainly interested in the dwarf harbingers of spring—the miniature iris for the front border—price does not stare one in the face to the extent of their taller brethren's prices. Color of spring? Yes . . . listen:

“What skillful limner e'er would choose  
To paint the rainbow's varying hues,  
Unless to mortal it were given  
To dip his brush in dyes of heaven?”  
—*Scott: “Marmion”*

Something in the genetic makeup of these “jewels” causes them to come quickly on the heels of the crocus, the tulips, the chionodoxa and the other early spring flowering bulbs. In fact almost before you know it, *Pumila atroviolacea* has appeared some frosty morn, presenting its dark reddish purple bloom on a short unbranched stem of about 6 inches. In spite of the fact that this iris is from the Italian botanist, Augustino Todaro, back in 1856, it still is popular in all gardens because of its earliness. Then too, it is frequently called the “Easter Iris” which has helped keep it with us through the years. In this same class and shape of flower, but not quite so early is the dainty *Azurea*, a collected sort first given us by the Belgian botanist, Van Houtte, back in 1896. We like this variety exceedingly well because of its light blue feathered coloring and white beard. It grows about 3 inches with us and we have had admirable luck bringing clumps of it into the house very early in the spring and forcing it into bloom, using the unusual result for a floral centerpiece.

Spring Skies has been highly touted as a more vigorous and taller *Azurea* and it is sold by many nurseries; however, we have



not found that it grows any better. Then there is Reflection which for us is actually an improvement over Azurea in size but not in daintiness. Reflection is later and occasionally has two blooms per stalk. Into a little darker coloring, one should not omit Dr. Mann, A 6-inch fragrant smoky violet of a very long season of bloom. It is very prolific and still is very popular but not well enough known in spite of the fact that it came from Willis E. Fryer of Minnesota back in 1924. Undoubtedly it has rather unsightly foliage after blooming. If you can have it planted among some *Dianthus plumarius* to act as ground cover later in the season, you will not note the dried up foliage.

Turning to a little darker shade, there is Mauvemist, really a fine novelty of recent introduction. Coming from Mr. H. M. Hill of Lafontaine, Kansas, it shows accomplishment from a long line of breeding. It is very spicily fragrant and has misty mauve lavender standards and falls of misty blue. So much in demand is it that the nurseries cannot get ahead on this fine sort. Then there is Papoose, just what you would expect from an Indian-named iris of this color. From Mr. Robert Wayman, now deceased, it grows about 6 inches tall and has frequently two blooms per stalk. The standards are soft buff, lightly flecked wine, and flaring; the falls are of dark mahogany with a narrow buff border. This is perhaps the latest in this color run and unfortunately we don't have any record of the parentage to discover whence it receives these characteristics.

What with some 128 varieties in our collection, it really is a task at times to pick out those which seem to be outstanding in some features of color, growth and fragrance. But let us take a look at the whites — rows and edgings of which you must have to lighten up any planting of other colors.

Perhaps the first to bloom of the true whites is Bride. Certainly it has deserved its Award of Merit in 1927. When Caparne introduced it in 1901, little did he know that it would be a favorite for so long. Growing 10 inches with us, it has more than one bloom per stalk, is very free blooming and is white as snow with only a few green veins at the haft and an ivory-yellow beard for a little contrast. Perhaps another reason for its popularity is its strong sweet odor and its fine green foliage — very vigorous in growth. Schneekuppe — meaning “Snowcap” — is another fine white but somewhat taller. A Goos and Koenemann introduction of 1910, much of

the original stock is very mixed. The true form, very scarce now, is snow white with a white beard. Among other dwarfs in white with variation flecks of blue or violet is Blue Beard (does not have a blue beard but gets its name from the flecks of violet on the falls). Stock of this variety is badly mixed with Die Fee (Fairy) and Brautjungfer (now superseded). Blue Beard has domed olive, light blue standards and falls of olive-green streaked with blue or purple; olive-white beard at tip and the rest orange; falls semi-flaring form; strong fragrance and it grows about 8 inches high with us. Bouquet is another one in this color class having a white background with heliotrope flecks. Unfortunately, it is not a strong grower with us or else our soil is too heavy. We have never grown it in a very sandy loam to observe different results, if any. Only 6 inches in height and very early, it does have a place in the border scheme.

### **Good Yellows Are Numerous**

With any planting of blues one should have some yellows. Although the "spring iris jewels" are short on really good whites, the dwarfs are much better represented with yellows. Our choice is Orange Queen but it is not quite as orange as the name would have us believe. Hardy, 6 inches tall, fragrant and of very rich yellow, it makes a grand floriferous border. We have one sweep of this fine iris edging a walk in front of an evergreen foundation planting around the house. A Kodachrome of this is an artist's delight. A more recent yellow is Yellow Frills (and frilled it is) — an introduction by H. M. Hill in 1937. It grows 10 inches and has more than one bloom per stalk. Actually it is canary-orange and has an orange beard with closed standards; at the haft of the falls there is a narrow-line wine venation. The falls are dusted with gold. No garden of miniatures can be complete without this. Sturtevant's Ylo is more of a citron yellow but has the advantage of being shorter — 6 inches. It is moderately slow on increase with us. As for J. Sass's Sound Money, there is nothing wrong with it except its 12-inch height. For the rock garden it is too tall but the color is a fine rich yellow and it is slightly fragrant. Burchfield's 1926 Sonny is a massive bloom for a dwarf but does not have too good a form — its 6-inch height and deep buttercup yellow self coloring are its main recommendations. Caparne's Stewart has the height of 6 inches and is extra early, has a fine yellow color but very poor substance; the blooms do not last in our Kansas winds.

In the cream section we are noticeably short of a good dwarf



equal to say, Kalinga or William Carey Jones of the tall bearded brethren. We hesitate to mention Florida, 6 inches, two blooms per stem, which is a light yellow or deep cream. It has much too open standards. Perle, 10 inches with lemon fragrance, is a true light ivory self but here the drooping falls are pinched at the haft and it has only fair substance. It is a late dwarf.

### **Blue Outlook**

Do you want a blue for your garden "ring"? Sorry, but we have no true light blues and only in the darker categories can we oblige. Of course there is Dykes' Thisbe (1923), 3 inches tall, which is such a soft dainty blue that we prefer to call it pinkish. It has a very tiny bloom; an ivory beard and the blooms seem to come out of the same basal stem. The foliage is purple at the base. For a mauve blue we prefer Buzzer (Burchfield 1927), height 6 inches. It actually has light blue-pink flushed open standards and slightly darker semi-flaring falls. The styles are also blue and the beard is blue tipped. Truly a choice one and very popular with our annual visitors. There is supposed to be a Die Fee which is sky-blue, but here in the States it has become so mixed with Fairy, Brautjungfer, Blue Beard and others that we are still looking for the true stock. But in the darker category we would like to call attention to Blue Jade (Van Fleet-Lovett 1926), 8 inches tall and of deep blue-purple color. The falls are overlaid rich plum and it has the brightest orange beard to relieve the sombre touch. Sorry, no odor. Lobelia is not so dark but of about same height. Styles rosy blue with a yellow beard. Just across the color line more toward the purple coloring are found Leopold and Cyanea (of course shorter). As for the Nicholls' Sapphire Night (1935), we hesitate to mention it here because it is not a true dwarf, growing from 15 to 18 inches tall and being branched. However it has a very pleasing grape odor, is slender stemmed and of deep rich indigo blue; styles are blue but lighter at edge. It has an unusual yellowish brown beard and very good substance. Well worth growing, but you will have to use it for the second border. It comes on with the late dwarfs. A fine one to grow with Sapphire Night is the pure white Snow Maiden (Chadwick 1935) with crinkled petals; 16 inches high, it has good substance and is floriferous.

What of the reds and pinks? Are there any? Very few, and here again the hybridizing of the dwarfs has been left in arrears with the mad scramble for the tall "pink bud" sorts. Nonetheless don't

skip over Rose Mist (H. P. Sass 1931) lightly. Of course its name is a slight exaggeration, but it is 10 inches tall, midseason with the dwarfs and more of a mauve-pink than rose. There is slightly too much white venation but the blue ribbed styles shading to pink enhance the heart of the bloom. A row of this is a never-to-be-forgotten sight. Socrates (Bonnewitz 1920), 6 inches tall, upholds the red banner for the old timers. A much improved Socrates is the H. P. Sass Tony (1931). Nine inches tall, it is a deep red to almost purple—a very rich coloring—with an orange beard. If planted with any blue dwarf its reddish wine coloring is much better presented. But Mr. H. M. Hill, not content with the size of Tony, has provided us with a smaller edition and shorter stature. Tiny Tony (1944) is 4 inches tall, slightly fragrant and more richly wine colored than its big brother. Very strange too, for the parentage is Tony X *Pumila atrovioacea*. A darker red may be found in Burgundy (Barr 1910) but here again it grows too high for the front border, being 12 to 15 inches tall. It is uniform rich dark burgundy throughout with pert small narrow upright standards and blue-brown tipped beard. We like its color.

### **Planting Schemes**

Many of the above named miniatures' natural coloring and beauty can be greatly enhanced by judicious planting among natural appearing rocks or along native stone slabs which take the place of formal cement or stone flagging walks. Likewise when we arrive at the variegata class we find a natural blending of the yellows and browns with similar tones in the rocks which are available to us here in this section of Kansas. If possible choose your rock colors to match or complement your iris or vice versa.

True variegatas are really scarce, especially if one is looking for something on the order of the big brothers, Lodestar or City of Lincoln. Fauntleroy (Wayman 1938), height 6 inches, makes a good stab at being a true variegata. With standards of greyish white edged soft yellow and flaring raisin-purple falls with narrow yellow border, it is unusual if not the best in this color combination. Visitors exclaim over it but still its popularity has never been too great. Hill's Fior del Mondo (name means Flower of the World), introduced in 1944, is 10 inches tall and has moderate fragrance. We believe this is one of the most satisfactory variegatas. It has further charm because the blooms are so petite. With clear yellow standards and falls having prominent rust-ochre-red veins



and more prominent veining at the haft, it really catches the eye.

Another "jewel" along this color line is Tampa (Cook 1936), 10 inches tall and very early. Parentage (Socrates X flavissima) accounts for its two blooms per stalk and oxblood coloring and heavy cream venation at the haft. It is very dainty but short on good form. The falls are too undercurled and the standards are too open but the light rose styles and bright orange beard surely make it a jewel for the hobbyist. Almost in the yellow classification is Hall's Tiny Treasure (1943—Ylo X Arenaria). A 5-inch sweet pea-odored midget of bright canary with extremely flaring falls, it has occasional purple flecks on the lower petals. Having two buds per stalk, its prolificness and hardiness make it very popular. Another freak of the color chart is J. Sass's Little Jewel (1939), midseason in blooming with the dwarfs. Being a brown-tan blend, it definitely has some yellow undercoloring and even some bronze and coppery tones. About 8 inches tall, it combines very well with any of the pure yellow sorts.

### **Rebloomers**

There are many other dwarfs, of course, which would be familiar to the ears of any collector, such as Negus, J. A. Slote, Butterfly, Graminea (not the species), Statellae, Curiosity and many others. But one has to draw the line somewhere and one cannot grow all sorts in the limited space most of us have reserved for iris alone. But before one can satisfactorily leave the "jewels" of the early garden, what of the rebloomers and the miscellaneous hybrids?

As for the remontants (or rebloomers), one should not be without the three standbys — Autumn Queen, Jean Siret and Lieutenant de Chavagnac. We have had bloom on these in the fall until the cold winter winds and frosts from the Rocky Mountains hit us. Of course the pure white Autumn Queen, 16 inches tall with more than one bloom per stalk, is not a true dwarf but can be used in that second border advantageously. As for Jean Siret, with its yellow petals splashed with violet flecks, and Lieutenant de Chavagnac — they fit in with the dwarf height and other dwarf characteristics much better. This latter sort is a violet-bronze-cream blend and is always a regular bloomer with us.

In the miscellaneous hybrid grouping we have only two that we grow satisfactorily. Here our climate is ideal for these hybrids as our springs are moist and the summers hot and dry. Balroudour, 12 inches in height, is lilac-blue splashed black, rust and oxblood.

The foliage has a peculiar "Z" shape. One drawback is that the space occupied by the plant becomes unsightly late in the season when it is through blooming, due to the foliage dying down completely. Monsieur Steichen, a 15-inch iridescent milky white flushed lavender with a porcelain finish is a much admired novelty in spite of the fact it has been in commerce since 1910.

Thus it is with the mingling of the dwarfs into the blooming period of the intermediates and the tall bearded, we gradually have our interest drawn into other lines and the symphony of full summer is upon us. Hybridizers could well drain off some of their surplus energy into the dwarf iris field and perhaps find reward more quickly there than with the tall bearded sorts. Too many of the modern iris breeders have "gone to seed" on the tall bearded line and as time flits by it becomes evident that much of their effort is proved "sterile." It is to be admitted that one cannot as yet get \$25.00 for a newly introduced dwarf; however, we have personally known a couple of dwarf hybridizers to sell their latest creations at \$5.00 and \$10.00 per rhizome and still never have enough to supply the demand. As the dwarfs become popularized and receive the recognition due them with a system of awards and judging peculiarly their own, then and right then will the public become aware of them, and THEN it is that the demand will begin to exceed the supply of the finer and newer sorts.

These miniatures of early spring have been a hobby with us and we are constantly on the lookout for old and new varieties not already in our collection. Much untangling of names, mixed stock and colors is to be done with the old time sorts which have been in commerce for several years. That in itself is a job which we have started on. Only through comparing varieties growing under the same conditions in the same gardens can we be sure of the identity or the non-identity of several sorts.

Would that an "Iris Fairy" could wave a magic wand and give us a lift at times! Would that another "Iris Fairy" could wave a wand and give us some truly modern, new and novel dwarfs or "Jewels of Spring"!!



# CONTROL OF IRIS BORER AND LEAF SPOT

L. F. RANDOLPH, (N. Y.)  
*Chairman, Scientific Committee*

The garden iris has the well earned reputation of being a hardy perennial that is easily grown and rarely suffers severe injury from diseases or insect pests. Nevertheless, it is true that under certain conditions diseases affecting the foliage and rhizomes may be injurious to the plant, and in the eastern and midwestern United States and eastern Canada the iris borer may become a serious pest. However, iris that are planted in fertile, well drained soil ordinarily can be kept in good condition by following a few simple rules and by utilizing available disease control measures, especially in the spring and early summer.

## GARDEN CLEANUP

The simplest and most effective method of controlling the spread of fungus leaf spot, bacterial soft rot and infestations of the iris borer is to remove and burn the dead leaves and other debris that accumulate about the plants and shrubbery in the garden during the growing season. A thorough cleanup of the garden in the late fall or early spring destroys most of the spores that cause the leaf spot, as well as the eggs of the borer which are laid in the fall on the dead leaves. Their removal before growth starts in the spring effectively eliminates the chief source of trouble that otherwise may develop. When this is done the spread of these diseases during the growing season ordinarily is inconsequential. Soft rot often follows winter injury to the foliage in colder climates and during the cool rainy weather of the spring season may spread rapidly if the dead leaves are not removed so that air and sunlight can reach the plants.

In my own iris plots it is customary to clean up the plants late in the fall, as indicated in the accompanying photograph. The rubbish is burned or buried as it is collected, thus destroying the spores of the leaf spot on the dead leaves and most, if not all, of the egg clusters of the borer before winter comes. There is usually more time available for jobs of this sort in the autumn than there





Randolph photo

Fall cleanup in progress during late October in the experimental iris plots of Cornell University. Removal of dead leaves and dying leaf tips effectively checks the spread of leaf spot and reduces the injury that may be caused by the borer during the following spring and early summer.

is in the spring and it is better to get rid of the spores that spread the leaf spot disease well in advance of the growing season.

These sanitary precautions over a period of years have kept the disease problem and borer infestation well in hand in my garden. In fact, during the past few years there has not been sufficient build-up of the fungus leaf spot or borer population in advance of the blooming season to provide suitable conditions for conducting tests of the effectiveness of various recommended sprays and dusting techniques that were planned as a project of the Scientific Committee. Probably the open spacing of the plants and clean cultivation also have helped to maintain the plants in healthy condition.

### THE IRIS BORER

Familiarity with the life history of the iris borer is necessary in order to appreciate the importance of applying control measures at certain seasons of the year. A very thorough study of the habits, distribution and life history of the borer was sponsored by the American Iris Society 20 years ago. The study was made by



Donald Ries and the results were published in AIS BULLETIN 32. This excellent article included photographs of the egg clusters, the larvae, the pupae and the adult moths which are brown with black markings and have a wing span of more than two inches.

The information contained in this report is as valuable today as it was then; relatively little additional information concerning the habits of the borer has become available since that time. Apparently it is no more abundant now than it was then and it seems not to have spread appreciably beyond the known range of distribution in 1928. Mr. Ries reported that it was present in the Eastern United States and adjoining regions of Canada, the limits to the south and west being Kentucky, Missouri and Iowa. It was found in Nashville for the first time last year. As the popularity of garden iris continues to increase and the plant is grown more widely it is possible that the borer may spread southward and westward still further. No reports of borer injury have as yet come in from the Southwest or the Pacific Coast.

The life history of the iris borer is well known. The full grown borers that are to be found in the rhizomes soon after the blooming season is over, enter the soil near the plants as they reach maturity and there form mahogany colored pupae from which night-flying moths emerge at the end of the summer. Within a few days after emergence the moths lay their eggs in clusters of 20 to 30 on the dead leaves and elsewhere about the plants and nearby shrubbery. The eggs are laid in the fall but do not hatch until the following spring. Those which survive the winter months begin to hatch during the first warm days of spring when the iris plants are beginning to produce their new foliage. As they hatch the young borer larvae are attracted to the iris plants where they begin at once to feed on the outer surface of the new leaves.

During the first two or three weeks after the larvae of the borer hatch they are too small to cause much injury to the foliage of iris plants. They feed for a short time on the surface of the young leaves, then eat their way into the fans and move about feeding along the inner surfaces of the leaves. Their presence inside the fans soon becomes apparent from the jagged appearance of the emerging young leaves which have been chewed by the borer. A slimy exudate mixed with frass accumulates between the leaves where the larvae have been at work.

At this stage it is a simple matter to separate the iris leaves with





Randolph photo

Dormant clumps of iris in the late fall should have dead leaves and diseased and dying leaf tips removed to prevent spores of fungus leaf spot and eggs of iris borer from being carried over winter and attacking the plants the following year.

the aid of a pruning knife and locate the borer. In my experience it is easier to destroy the larvae in this way rather than by pinching the leaves without knowing just where the borer is, as others have recommended. If it is not destroyed while still in the upper parts of the leaves the borer soon moves downward towards the base of the plant, often chewing the heart out of the fan as it tunnels into the rhizome.

Apparently the eggs of the borer do not hatch all at one time early in the spring. If they did a single application of a lethal spray or dust as they begin to feed on the outer surface of the leaves would effectively check their entrance into the plants. Intermittent hatching of the eggs during the spring and early summer makes repeated treatments necessary to keep the new growth covered as a protective measure.

Borers ranging in size from recently hatched larvae less than half an inch long to nearly mature larvae more than three-quarters of an inch in length ordinarily can be found in heavily infested gardens at the height of the blooming season. Dr. and Mrs. Franklin P. Lowry, who made a careful study of the borer in their garden at Newton, Massachusetts a few years ago and reported



their findings in BULLETIN 105, observed that the eggs hatched over a period of two or three months. And Jesse Wills in "Post-Season Meditations" following the Annual Meeting in Nashville last year mentions having found borers of varying size in his garden. He also mentioned a comment by Mr. Marion Shull who believed that in the vicinity of Washington, D. C., there may be an emergence of moths in the spring as well as in the fall. Pupae resembling those of the iris borer have been sent to me in the spring for identification. Thus far they have always turned out to be something else, and at the present time there is at hand no evidence of live moths or pupae having been seen in the spring.

#### SPRAYING AND DUSTING TO CONTROL THE BORER AND LEAF SPOT

The hatching of the eggs of the borer over a considerable period of time during the spring and early summer complicates the problem of control with spraying and dusting mixtures. Applications must begin before hatching commences and must be continued approximately at weekly intervals to keep the new leaves covered and prevent the entrance of larvae hatching later in the season. After the young larvae have bored into the leaves and have become established inside the plant they can no longer be reached with surface treatments. They must be killed during the few days they are feeding on the outer surface of the leaves.

Tests with DDT since 1946, when it first became generally available, have demonstrated that it is effective in controlling the iris borer if the foliage is kept covered with it during the spring and early summer when the young borers are feeding on the outside of the leaves. DDT can be mixed with fungicides and applied either as a spray or as a dry powder that is dusted on the plants. Thus it is possible to treat iris effectively for the borer and for leaf spot at the same time.

A thorough test of the effectiveness of DDT was made in the Lowry and Fraim gardens near Boston, beginning in the spring of 1946 and continuing through the 1947 and 1948 iris seasons. It was used both as a dust and as a spray in combination with Fermate for the control of leaf spot. Their experiments were very successful. The results the first two seasons were published in BULLETIN 105. During a visit to their gardens in 1948 it was most gratifying not to find any evidence of the borer in either garden, although there

were plenty of borers in neighboring gardens. Their plants also were remarkably free of leaf spot.

In the garden of Fred Cassebeer, former editor of the BULLETIN, at Blauvelt, New York, DDT was being used during 1948 in combination with Phygon, a promising commercial fungicide. One corner of this garden was left untreated as a control. Here there was abundant evidence of the borer, but elsewhere there seemed to be no borers at the height of the blooming season when his garden was visited. It is indeed a real pleasure to see choice varieties of iris beautifully grown and in perfectly healthy condition.

Inconclusive results of tests with DDT in my own garden probably have been due to the fact the treatments were not started early enough in the spring or repeated often enough to keep the new foliage covered during the entire period while the eggs were hatching and the young borers were feeding on the exposed surfaces of the leaves. It is probable that the unsatisfactory results reported occasionally by others have been due to the same cause.

Comparative tests of the effectiveness of the many kinds of fungicides that are now available have not been made with iris. But it is reasonably certain that injury to foliage caused by the common fungus leaf spot can be reduced appreciably with any one of a number of fungicides, including Fermate, Bordeaux, Phygon<sup>1</sup> and organic copper, used according to the directions furnished by the manufacturer. Of these it is probable that Bordeaux, the old standby, is as good as any, especially when made up fresh by mixing the stock ingredients just before using. With iris it is especially important to be sure that an efficient spreader is used. Otherwise, a thorough coverage of the smooth, upright surfaces of the iris leaves may not be obtained.

Under conditions favorable to the spread of leaf spot it is just as necessary to make frequent applications of a fungicide as it is to apply DDT at frequent intervals to control the borer. The new foliage must be kept covered as it develops during the growing season. Leaf spot spreads throughout the season as a result of the spores being splashed from plant to plant during rainy weather

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<sup>1</sup>Phygon is one of the most powerful fungicides known at the present time and should be used cautiously to make certain that the recommended treatment is not injurious to the plants, and to avoid the allergic reaction much like that from poison ivy which is known to have resulted from handling this fungicide.



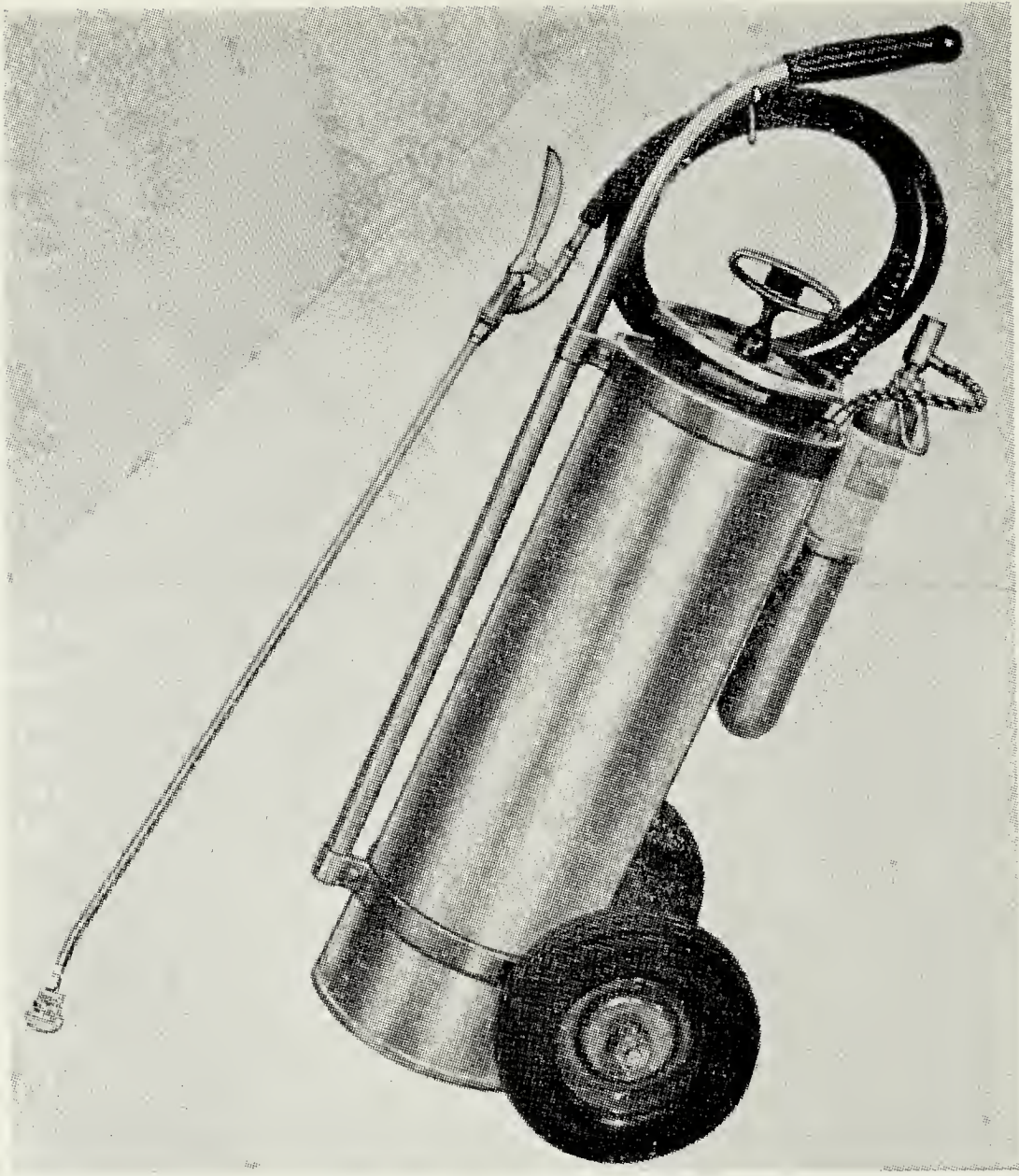


Photo courtesy Chapin Mfg. Works, Inc.

Operating a sprayer of this type, mounted on rubber wheels and equipped with a cylinder of compressed carbon dioxide which automatically maintains a constant pressure of 30 pounds, is almost like taking an afternoon stroll in the garden.

or carried with droplets of moisture in air currents during periods of relatively high humidity. A protective covering on the exposed surfaces of the foliage is essential to prevent the spread of the fungus.

### SPRAYING AND DUSTING EQUIPMENT

The job of applying insecticides and fungicides is not as difficult or tedious as it was a few years ago. For the small garden improved types of dust guns and hand sprayers are very generally available and for larger gardens there is excellent power equipment. A

recent innovation even eliminates the necessity of pumping by hand to maintain the pressure of hand sprayers. This is accomplished by attaching a small cylinder of compressed carbon dioxide to the sprayer. Replacement cylinders of carbon dioxide may be obtained from the manufacturer if not available at the corner drugstore. One of the 4-gallon cart sprayers with attached cylinders of carbon dioxide is shown in the accompanying photo. The manufacturer of this sprayer is the R. E. Chapin Manufacturing Works, Inc., Batavia, New York. For larger gardens power sprayers of almost any desired capacity are available, and at least one commercial grower has found that airplane dusting is an efficient method of covering large fields of iris.

If there was any leaf spot or borer in your garden last year, remember the old saying that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Give your garden a thorough cleanup during the first warm days of spring, if you have not already done so, and thus get rid of as many as possible of the borers' eggs and spores of the leaf spot that live over winter and spread the disease in the early spring. Control with the use of DDT and fungicides depends on repeated applications at approximately weekly intervals, and these applications must begin very early in the spring and continue at least up to the blooming season.

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## Canadians Hold Meeting

MRS. HARRY BICKLE, (CANADA)

*R. V. P., Region 16*

The second annual meeting of the Canadian Iris Society was held in Oakville at the lakeshore home of Mr. and Mrs. Ryland H. New. The sixty-four members who attended the meeting from many parts of Ontario were entertained at dinner by Mrs. New.

Mr. W. J. Moffat, President, told the meeting that membership stands at about 200 in all parts of Canada.

Mr. Leslie Laking, the very efficient Secretary, gave a graphic and humorous description of the life cycle of the iris borer, and some suggestions for control.

Miss Isabella Preston spoke of lilies in some English gardens she



had visited last summer. She has left her position with the Dominion Government and has settled in Georgetown where she is working on her own new garden.

Mrs. Harry Bickle, Regional Vice-President of the American Iris Society for Region 16 (The Canadian Iris Society), gave an account of the Annual Meeting held in Nashville last May. Ten Canadians attended the splendidly conducted meetings and saw the finest and many of the newest iris. Mrs. Bickle spoke enthusiastically of the fine spirit of the meeting and the friendliness and evident desire for co-operation.

Mr. Sam Vogan, a leader in the field of colour photography, and an internationally respected judge and exhibitor, showed a series of beautiful pictures of various gardens, including of course some very lovely iris. His comments were lively and thoroughly appreciated.



Word has been received of the sudden death of Mr. William Miles' son at their home near Ingersoll. Bill was an important partner in their farm, and his death will be a serious blow to Mr. and Mrs. Miles, who receive much sympathy.

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#### IRIS FILM IS GOOD PROGRAM FEATURE

Program chairmen worried over good attractions for regional meetings and other large gatherings of iris fanciers might well consider the John Ott sound-color movie, "How To Grow Iris." The 20-minute film works out admirably as a special feature to supplement a color slides program. Made largely in the Orville Fay and David Hall gardens in Wilmette, Illinois, the garden views and the "how-to" episodes are adequate, and the "time-lapse" sequences, photographed in Mr. Ott's studios, are completely fascinating. Foliage pushes up, buds swell, open to their full glory and then close again, right before the eye.

A 16 millimeter sound projector is

required. For additional information, see page 115 of the January BULLETIN.

Incidentally, the AIS has two excellent collections of color slides which may be secured through the Central Office in Nashville. We have hesitated to publicize them, however. From the simple listing carried on the inside front cover of the BULLETINS, these slides are usually booked solid through the winter and spring months, and we have had to turn down a number of requests for them. Unfortunately the slide-duplicating process has given disappointing results in color reproduction and we have not seen fit to circulate sets of duplicates. We are, however, building up additional sets of originals and hope to have more available after the current blooming season.—S.C.

*What Is the - - -*

## Correct Culture for Bearded Irises?

JEAN STEVENS, (NEW ZEALAND)

It has been very interesting to read in the BULLETINS of the last few years first of all an occasional, and latterly a more frequent doubt expressed as to the approved method of bearded iris culture. Twenty years ago it was rank heresy to say that they could be grown anywhere else than in full sun, that lime was not always necessary to their health, or that they would tolerate, let alone appreciate, the addition of any organic manure to the soil. One single culture was propounded and no modification could be countenanced — bearded irises require full sun and perfect drainage; they must have lime to grow well; they should never be watered and *never* given any animal manure. To contravene these rules was to court certain failure. And many who did contravene them did fail, and so the cultural rules became cultural laws, subject to no modifications under any conditions!

### Some Break the Rules

In these days when the flower of our fancy is gaining adherents in many soils and climates we are astonished to find that it is only by contravening our standard cultural rules that some gardeners can grow irises successfully. And sometimes we are finding that our neighbors who are breaking all the rules of the game are growing their irises far better than are we who religiously conform! We marvel and we wonder how this one “gets away” with heavy manuring and that one has never added so much as a pinch of lime to his soil, and yet his plants are the picture of health. Again someone is gaining a delightful vista growing irises under trees, and yet another uses them as streamside plants. Summarized, some break the rules and fail, while others break the rules and succeed. Of course there are reasons, and if we examine the position carefully I think we shall find at least some of them. I would suggest that different conditions will be ninety per cent of the answer to our poser. Different soils and different climates just about cover “different conditions,” but I doubt whether many of us realise the immense complexity that they cover. Take an acid soil. This may



be encountered where drainage is good, poor, or indifferent, where the annual sunshine hours are high or low, rainfall ditto, where the summers are dry and the winters wet, or the summers wet and the winters dry, or there may be no definite wet or dry seasons, or again where the sunshine heat may be temperate or fierce. All these will make for different conditions "in an acid soil." When it is remembered that an acid soil may be rich or poor in humus, light or heavy, well or badly drained, and we are postulating the conditions modifying only one degree of soil acidity, we begin to think of tricks played with the multiplication table! And yet, we as gardeners have actually dared to suggest that *one* culture will suit bearded irises under this infinitude of conditions.

Plants are very adaptable, and our bearded irises particularly so. Were this not true they would grow in very few gardens — and we should never have fallen into the error of imagining that we could make hard and fast rules for growing them.

Somewhere in the foregoing I suggested that ninety per cent of the answer why irises have surprised us by their failure to conform consistently to our standard cultural rules was different conditions. I now suggest that the other ten per cent of the answer is the difference in the culture required by the individual variety, or, perhaps, groups of varieties. I know that many members of the AIS have realised this better than, perhaps, the English or I myself have done. But how many of us have realised that it is open to us, where a particularly desirable variety is concerned, to modify its culture to suit its requirements? I am not referring to weak growers or poor performers whose character has been determined in varied soils and climates but to varieties that do well for some people and poorly for others. There is little doubt that some varieties respond to richer soil, others to a moister soil, and again others to more or less sunshine, than the greater proportion of iris varieties prefer.

In BULLETIN 108, in the article "New Worlds to Conquer," Mr. T. C. Russell complains bitterly of our failure to produce "good garden irises," and quotes Salar as the only free-blooming variety in his modern planting, with Sable, Golden Majesty, and Fair Elaine amongst the varieties with prima donna complex. I am not taking him up on the main subject of his complaint, but I wish he could have seen Salar as it performs in this garden! Last year was without any question the finest iris flowering season with me

in ten years. Almost every variety flowered and flowered freely, even my old favourite, Lighthouse, against which, on the score of its ten fans, one flower stem performance, the verdict of "lights out" had gone up at last. I had somewhere in the vicinity of five hundred full sized fans on Salar — and from twenty to thirty flower spikes! Sable, Fair Elaine and Golden Majesty each produced a veritable forest of stems from smaller stocks. So were some iris breeder to raise a race of free-flowering irises to suit Mr. Russell's Chicago conditions and I decided to grow this "free-flowering" series, it is very conceivable that I should find them poor performers.

### **Error in Generalized Advice**

Perhaps the greatest error we have fallen into in our generalised cultural advice — and practice — for growing bearded irises is the fact that we have failed to realise that though a soil needs to be very poor before irises will refuse to grow at all, they do appreciate rich sources of plant food, particularly phosphates. Under my conditions they do not like that plant food to be too readily available. Also the available food should be in balance. Too much nitrogen and a shortage of phosphates and potash will give rank growth at the expense of ripened growth and flower stem, poor increase, and too many flowers.

In determining how rich to make the soil in our iris beds, we sometimes overlook the fact that it is moisture in the soil, which by controlling the length of time during which the plants can make active growth, also controls the availability of plant foods. A lesser amount of food is available over the whole season in *any* soil in a climate where there is no appreciable summer rainfall, than the same soil could offer in a climate which has enough summer rainfall to keep the soil sufficiently moist to maintain active growth. It is therefore obvious that where a summer drought can be depended on to slow up the growth, irises should be given a richer soil than would be advisable in a climate where the soil never really dries out during summer or where it dries out for only a short period.

Again, very light and sandy soils dry out quickly, and a few weeks of fine weather quickly slow up growth at any season, and in these soils irises can safely be given organic manures, partly because the manure is not constantly available to them, but also because the humus content of such soils is quickly leached out.



## A Quarter-Century of Experience

May I tell you of my own experience in growing irises over the last twenty-five years? New Zealand is only a small country, but despite this has a very varied assortment of soils and climatic conditions — sweet light soils, acid light soils, heavy clay soils, heavy and light loams, rich volcanic soils, poor pumice soil, sandstone country, rich and poor alluvial soils, to an endless variety. Rainfall varies from 18 inches a year to 200 inches.

When I first grew irises I was living in a district with an annual rainfall of about 45 inches, and growing them in a medium to light alluvial soil with a gravel subsoil. Here for fifteen years I grew irises, using phosphates as a spring top-dressing, and giving heavy applications of lime every winter. No other manures were ever given, and the culture was, in fact, the time-tried creed of the textbooks.

Year after year the irises grew and flourished, and presented no problems — very little rot, very little leaf-spot and no other diseases at all. I thought I knew all about growing irises! I had followed the textbooks and found they were right, had *proved* they were right! So they were — for my conditions. But then I married and took my irises to grow in another soil with a lower rainfall. There in the Rangitikei district we had 30 inches of rain, more sunshine, and a light porous alluvial loam with no subsoil. We knew it was deficient in phosphates, but most plants, whether tolerant or intolerant of lime, flourished.

When I was planting my irises my husband, who is a nurseryman, asked me *why* I gave my irises lime. I told him that bearded irises must have lime, and then he showed me many plants in the nursery which also were acknowledged lime lovers, and they were flourishing, and he had never given them any lime. So with some misgivings (I was a bit of a ritualist) I did not lime my iris beds that winter. The irises did very well, though there was more rot and leaf spot than I had expected in such well drained soil, and the flowers did not quite attain the size to which I was accustomed. Two or three years went by (while the irises used up the humus present in the soil) and then I noticed the increase was getting less each season. Then came autumn when the fans showed no short sideshoots at all.

That winter a rot attacked the rhizomes, not the foul mess that *pseudomonas* makes, but a wholesale rotting off of the main rhizomes, young and old. We called in help from our Plant Re-

search Department to control the rot. They tested our pH, and found it very low indeed, and advised us to add lime at the rate of four tons to the acre, giving an immediate topdressing of slaked quick lime. This checked the rot immediately, but did not help give increase in the spring. Putting our heads together we decided that the irises were starving, and we dug in large quantities of animal manure and compost, and topdressed with superphosphate. The effect was magical, and our problem was by way of being solved.

Therefore manure was added in good quantities annually, and lime and phosphates were not forgotten, and the irises flowered, increased, and were happy. I had learned one lesson, and from then on modified my advice to our customers from "no manure under any circumstances" to "if your soil is very light or sandy, you can safely add well rotted animal manure and rich compost."

Since we came to Wanganui the irises have had another shift, this time to a heavy rich loam over heavy clay. Before planting we had the iris garden drained, and had the soil analyzed and the pH taken. We found that in this soil we did not need to add lime or phosphates and potash. During the three seasons that we have grown irises in this garden they have done amazingly well, giving wonderful increase and a profusion of flower. Rot worries us very little and leaf spot is practically non-existent, and we have no other diseases at all. But I have come to the conclusion that our iris culture must be according to our soil, conditions, and climate, and not according to any textbook culture.

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#### WINTER PROTECTION — DIRT CHEAP

Please let me report an experience from the winter and spring of 1947-'48. When heavy snow covers my iris planting, it is fine protection but when it melts and there is inadequate drainage and ice water covers the iris planting, that is disastrous. To avoid such an occurrence it was necessary for me to dig a temporary ditch through my garden so that the water from the melting snow would drain away. At that time I reasoned that if it was good protection to mound

dirt over a newly planted peony, why not mound dirt over clumps of iris? This I did to the clumps near the ditch. After the frost went out of the ground in spring, I took my hose and with little effort washed the dirt off the clumps of iris and back into the ditch.

On shrubs, evergreens, iris and other perennials it was the worst winter we have had here in Minnesota, but my iris mounded over with dirt wintered in fine shape and produced some of the finest bloom I've ever seen.

—*Granvil B. Gable, Minneapolis, Minn.*



# *Vacation in Iris Land*

PROF. AND MRS. FRANK H. BANYARD, (KANS.)

As the ducks fly to the north in the spring so we, two iris enthusiasts, followed the iris bloom through Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and Illinois last year. It was vacation time for both of us. Some of the gardens visited have not been mentioned in the *BULLETINS* recently, so in the hope of inspiring others to go iris trekking in this territory, we'll tell of the things we saw.

Leaving our own gardens in Hutchinson, Kansas, just after the peak of the blooming season, we headed first for the Fair Chance Farm at Beloit, Kansas. We missed their sign and drove ten miles beyond the farm before realizing it. Mr. Geiser and son, Melvin, met us upon our arrival and from then on treated us as special guests, devoting much of their valuable time to showing us their gardens. We saw many of their importations from England, New Zealand and other countries, and we noted that foreign breeders are not so much interested in size and gaudiness of color, but look more for charm and daintiness in the iris.

Among the many varieties grown at Fair Chance Farm we were much impressed with Staten Island, a crisp clear variegata from Kenneth Smith, with a larger flower than City of Lincoln. We noted also Suzette, a delicately marked plicata; Southern Pacific, a large flaring blue; New Horizon, Lynn Langford and Pink Cameo of the peach, orchid-pink and pink shades. Among the reds we liked Solid Mahogany, Redward and Flamely. Ave Maria displayed a lovely clear white bloom, and we jotted in our notebook an O.K. for Hoosier Sunrise and Honeyflow of the rose-pink and gold blends. Sultan's Robe attracted us with its more dashing, deeper color blend. In a protected spot by the house we saw a good bloom of Barrimohr, but we still like William Mohr as well as any of its offspring.

What might have been just an unsightly hump in the Geiser yard is a cave with its face lifted. An old cellar top is turned to good use by the enterprising Geisers. It is embanked by rocks and stones in terraced slopes with many varieties of rock plants growing on the rounded top. The blue of tradescantia complements the color of the iris which bloom on a lower level. Completing the garden

picture were many fine varieties of peonies, poppies and dwarf and Siberian iris. Back of this garden, like all gardens, were the people who dream dreams and see visions. We bade them farewell — these good people — the Geisers.

### **Gold Strike at Sass Brothers'**

As we traveled on our conversation never lagged, for now we had notes to compare, and in most cases we agreed on the notes we took; for how true it is that a husband's opinions are usually his only after his wife has sifted them well! Our next stop was the Maple Road Gardens near Omaha, Nebraska. When we arrived we found that the Sass Brothers had made a gold strike! Not in ore but in iris. Keeping up with the current fashion of gold-on-white they have originated a charming iris with white standards and green-gold falls, entirely different from any other iris we have ever seen. We saw it labeled as No. 45-85, but in a recent letter, Mr. Sass informed us that this iris will be introduced as New Era. Watch for it — it's a darling!

The Sass Brothers have given us Bertha Gersdorff and Moonlit Sea; now they give us a cross of these two, seedling 46-113, introduced in 1948 as Cuban Carnival. It is similar to Moonlit Sea, only with more intense coloring and a yellow flush center extending into the standards and the falls. We also admired a sister seedling of Cuban Carnival, No. 46-114. It resembles Moonlit Sea but differs mostly in the coloring. It is a blue with a white flush center, and is altogether a dainty and trim iris. We cannot become too enthused ourselves about the "odds" and the "fancies," but this particular iris just about charmed us into a change of opinion. Recent word from the Sass Brothers indicates that this iris has been named Pretty Pansy. A nice name for a new iris personality.

Among the named varieties growing in the Sass Gardens, and grown well, were such outstanding iris as Ola Kala, Mattie Gates, Courtier, Hit Parade, Salmonette, Ebony Queen, Lamplit Hour, Vice Regal and a perfectly gorgeous bloom of Chivalry. It was dusk as we bent down on our knees to get a good look at Chivalry, and after making an appointment with the Sasses for an early morning tour of the seedling beds we retired to our hotel in Omaha.

A brisk early morning shower did not dampen our ardor to meet the Sasses at 8:00 A.M. the next morning. First of all we saw



a seedling plot where those were grown that were considered to be worth further observation. The one that absolutely stopped us as we looked across the garden was No. 47-64. We had noticed it the day before — a very hot day — when it seemed oblivious of the heat, still looking fresh and crisp. It is brilliant orange-yellow with the same color in style and beard with deeper orange venations at the haft. Well formed flowers were held on strong, not too tall stalks. Surely we will hear more of this seedling at some future date.

Other Sass seedlings we liked and made note of were 46-111, a very deep red, and 46-207, a good pink with a salmon tint, having good branching on a sturdy stalk. Seedling 46-13 was quite a different iris. It has a very tall stalk with fair branching, and the buds are green, opening into grayish white standards with a green cast in the falls — all topped off with a blue beard.

As we stood looking at still another seedling plot, we were told that it contained some 20,000 seedlings blooming for the first time. This plot overlooked a large acreage of newly planted corn, and it was then that we learned that the Sass Brothers farm 720 acres of land. Realizing then that we had taken a great deal of their valuable time which they so generously shared, we hastily jotted down only a few numbers of seedlings that we shall hope to see another year. Among those that seemed to us worthy of note were 48-31, a different shade of red, very bright and showing some brown; 48-74, a Rocket type, more orange in the standards and more brown in the falls; 48-26, a good dark purple, and 48-110, of the raspberry-pink shade with tangerine beard. As we listened carefully to the well chosen description, "clear flower," "broad haft," "sturdy stalks," we knew that we were in the presence of experienced hybridizers. Our visit with the Sass Brothers was both enjoyable and educational.

### **In Iowa and Missouri**

Driving north through the rolling land of Iowa we soon came to the garden of Mrs. Charles G. Whiting in Mapleton. We were too early to see her many varieties in full bloom. However, we did see several of the earlier sorts such as Cloth of Gold, Good News, Wild Honey, Lavender and Gold Lace, Mount Timp and her 1948 introduction, Marathon. It is a seedling of Mellowglow and Cedar Rose quite similar to its pod parent, but Mrs. Whiting claims for it greater hardiness and better performance in general.

Mrs. Whiting, who was resting as per doctor's orders when we arrived, assured us that she needed the sunshine as well, so she graciously showed us through the beautifully arranged and carefully kept garden. It was indeed worth the extra drive to get to know so charming a person.

In order to attend the regional show at St. Joseph, Mo., we had to retrace our route, driving south through Iowa to Oregon, Mo., where we visited relatives over night. We pursued our iris hunt and found two very interesting gardens there. Mrs. R. B. Bridgeman, who proudly admits being 75 years of age, greeted us warmly and showed us her many old varieties and a great many new ones. She apologized for appearing in slacks but we thought them most becoming. She was abounding in energy and enthusiasm as she spoke of her iris. She has been growing iris for 25 years and can't bear to discard any of them; she said, "I love them all." She remarked with vigor, "I'm going to have Chivalry, dang it, if I never get a new dress! I'd just hang the dress in the closet anyway."

Across the street was the garden of Mrs. C. J. Sherrill. It was a gorgeous color display of iris, peonies, poppies, roses and many other perennials. We especially liked the small clumps of unusual grass bordering some of the iris beds. We were amazed to see Amigo and Wabash towering above many of the so-called tall varieties. Wabash for us, in Kansas, is low growing, but the northwest Missouri soil had added at least one foot to its stature. Mrs. Sherrill is indeed a true flower lover as evidenced by a well kept garden and her skill in incorporating iris into her perennial borders. It was our pleasure to meet Mrs. Sherrill and Mrs. Bridgeman again, later in the day, at the iris show of Region 18 in St. Joseph, and to sit with them at the banquet in the evening.

The regional show and tour were reported by Father David Kinnish in the BULLETIN of last July, so we shall not repeat details. We hastened on to the Chicago area and a chilly reception — from the weather — but warm greetings from the David Halls and Orville Fays. We were too early for more than a peek at many pink buds, but did see the coloring of the so-called "strawberry blondes" (still talking about iris). Fortunately the Hall and Fay gardens have been fully covered in recent BULLETIN stories.

We took time on our way home to make one stop, and felt well rewarded when we viewed the garden of Miss Selma Esping, an AIS



member in Geneva, Illinois. One could tell that a great deal of interest and love had gone into the placing of every rock and plant there. She has a natural spring-fed brooklet running below the graded slope of the lawn back of her house. A stone path and steps down one side of the slope made a very picturesque garden. One side is devoted to tea-roses while the larger space on the other side of the steps is planted with many fine clumps of iris and perennials. A border of iris encircles her front lawn. Miss Esping, a retired school teacher, was thoroughly enjoying her home, charmingly furnished in antiques, and her hobby, iris. She was busy planning an iris benefit tea for the Geneva Community Club.

As we drove a little quicker now to get home to our children and our garden, we discussed the many observations made — imagine Wabash and Amigo growing so tall in Missouri . . . so many iris seem to be over-rated . . . too many similar iris are being introduced . . . pinks are getting pinker . . . strawberry blondes look more like raspberry sherbet . . . commercial growers should get together on their prices . . . let's get the fragrance back in iris . . . iris are getting too tall . . . etc., etc. Arriving home we found our own garden looking pretty ragged, but Jonquil and Missouri Night were still blooming, and William Mohr had set four seed pods.

On July 14 a tornado swept through, uprooting trees, twisting the chimney off our house, and scattering our iris seedpods possibly as far south as Oklahoma. Who knows? Somewhere in some isolated spot may spring up a beautiful new, real red iris. All we ask is that whoever finds it, please call it Tornado.

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#### REGION 6 ROUND ROBINS

I am "Mother Robin" for Michigan Iris Round Robins. In addition to our general Robins here, I am organizing some Iris *Hybridizers'* Robins, to be composed of AIS members in Region 6 who are interested in iris breeding for pleasure and/or profit, and who would like to join in such a project for the purpose of widening their circle of congenial iris friends.

There are no dues in any of our

Robins — the only requirements are AIS membership and a sincere interest in iris and the people who grow them. The more members and Robins we have, the more good we shall get from them. I should like very much to hear from anyone in Region 6 — Michigan, Ohio and Indiana — who is interested.

—Mrs. George D. Robinson  
Route 7, Box 1096-K,  
Battle Creek, Mich.

# A Novice Visits the Giants

PHILIP G. CORLISS, M.D., (ARIZ.)

Several years ago I was baited with an iris catalog filled with ravishing pictures of such beautiful flowers that I could not resist. Several dozen of these heavenly things were ordered and planted between the roses and under the fruit trees. Some of them lived long enough to send up a single bloom, but this bloom was so beautiful I felt it worth the expense and trouble. Two summers ago I moved the few that had not succumbed to rot up along the fence, where they got good drainage. The growth and prolific bloom next spring was amazing, and I suddenly realized that the Southwest desert region is not unlike the native habitat of the iris, and might even prove to be the most favorable part of the country for their growth!

In 1948 I spent nearly four months visiting our leading growers and hybridizers. I met some wonderfully nice people, learned a lot (I think), and planted over 150 varieties upon returning. Some of my adventures may be of interest to readers of this BULLETIN.

MILLIKEN GARDENS — My first visit to the Milliken Gardens in Arcadia, California, was too late to see much bloom. The exhibition garden, located on U. S. Highway #66 directly across from Santa Anita race track, was devoid of bloom. The main commercial planting had some late bloom on Great Lakes, Painted Desert, and Tobacco Road. The new Milliken hemerocallis were at their peak. Later in the summer I returned many times to call on Mr. Carl Milliken. One day I asked him for Dr. Kleinsorge's address, as I wished to visit him in Oregon before returning to Arizona. A few minutes later the nursery telephone rang, and I hear Mr. Milliken say, "Where in the world are you? There's a chap here wants to meet you." It was Dr. Kleinsorge, and he soon appeared. There followed what was, for me, a most interesting and instructive afternoon.

I drove the two distinguished hybridists and Dr. Kleinsorge's nephew to Mr. Milliken's seedling field. On the way I passed a garden in which I thought I saw some iris in bloom. But this was late August! Without a word, I backed the car. Sure enough, there was not one, but nearly a dozen varieties of tall bearded iris



in bloom! We all got out, and the insistent barking of a chow dog brought the lady of the house. She was happy at our interest in the iris and told us a lot about them — until she suddenly recognized Mr. Milliken, and became a-vocal. It was not until the others had returned to the car that I told her that Dr. Kleinsorge was one of group! I hope she will forgive us — she was most charming.

EMIL WITTMAN — It was the late Robert Wayman's catalog that first infected me with the iris virus, so I made several trips to the large nursery in Clifton, New Jersey, now owned by his son-in-law, Emil Wittman. Again I was too late for the bearded iris, but caught the *Iris kaempferi* and the *hemerocallis* at their peak. I spent the day photographing the *kaempferi*, wearing a pair of "arctics" (overshoes) on account of the water so necessary for best bloom for this species. It was a steaming hot day, but I felt well repaid, for that huge field was full of magnificent and enormous blooms, not only named varieties but also scores of wonderful seedlings. Mr. Wittman has torn down his greenhouses and made what will be one of the largest exhibition iris gardens in the world, and I am anxious to return this spring and see it in bloom for the first time.

FAIRMOUNT GARDENS — Mrs. Thomas Nesmith was most gracious. The iris were past their peak in Lowell, Massachusetts, when I arrived, but studying her gardens was like a dream come true for me. Only two of her 1948 introductions were left in bloom — Tournament and Color 'Sargent. The former is a truly magnificent bicolor. Color Sargent, originated by Mr. H. F. Hall, was my favorite of all the iris I saw this year. It is a very large, strong, brown-red — the best red in the brown tones that I have seen. I admired it so much that Mrs. Nesmith allowed me to take one flower home, and by keeping it mostly in the refrigerator, I enjoyed its beauty for nearly a week!

A fine flower, not as large as Color Sargent, or quite as strong, is Mary Ellen. It is in shades of red, with a light edging on the flaring falls. I knew at once that I could not be happy living without Mary Ellen in my garden. The third red I liked was Sass's Red Torch, which is really a bicolor, with nice red falls. Extravaganza was another late bloomer which demanded attention, and an amoena still in bloom was Choir Boy — quite similar to Wabash, but much later to flower.

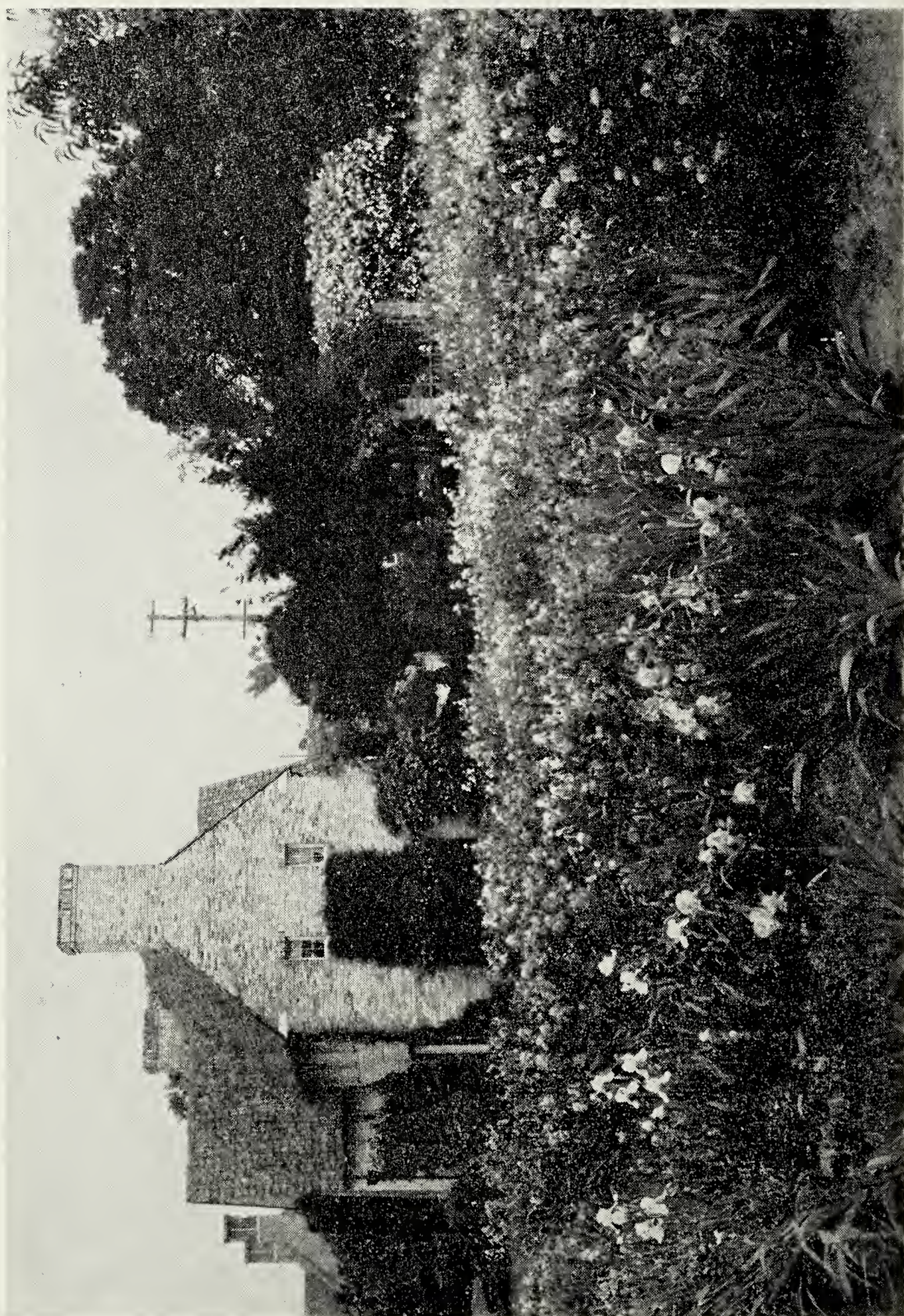
MRS. PRESTON COREY — One of the most charming gardens I have ever seen is in Reading, Massachusetts, at the home of Mrs. Preston Corey. It is in a rustic setting on a gentle slope, with her typical white New England home at the top of the hill. This is the birthplace of a new blue — Bay State — which will be introduced by Mrs. Nesmith this year. Mrs. Corey's Clicquot is a buff-brown which was one of the first to show the now popular flaring form.

DR. ROBERT GRAVES — It was not until I got up to Concord, New Hampshire, that I finally caught up with the peak bloom in an iris garden. An early Sunday morning drive through a heavy rainstorm brought me to Dr. Graves' Concord garden. The sturdiness of his wonderful offerings such as Admiral Nimitz and Helen McGregor was amply proved by the way they withstood that early morning downpour. Admiral Nimitz is a large icy white, with wonderful ruffling. Dr. Graves told me that he had written to Admiral Nimitz for permission to name the iris for him, so suggestive is it of the best in our navy with its starched white and gold (as shown in the beard). A favorable reply was received from the admiral's battle station in the Philippines. The beds in Concord were filled with wonderful light blue seedlings, obviously the daughters of Helen McGregor or Cloud Castle. These seedlings also had heavy substance, large size, excellent branching — in fact, all the features of fine iris. Best of all, some of them will not fade in the hottest sun. Here, too, were Lady Mohr, Master Charles, Ola Kala and many other famous iris, all at the height of their bloom.

From the Concord garden we drove to Dr. Graves' summer home in nearby Hopkinton. Dr. Graves was not in robust health, but he came out on the terrace and talked with me for some time. The large house is built on the top of a hill. The long slope below it has many tiers of iris beds. Most of them were filled with seedlings, and here I saw more true pinks than I had ever seen — a sight that was denied me because of my tardiness at David Hall's. The color and form is all that could be desired on these pinks, but I felt that the branching and substance still need some improvement.

Dr. Graves has not limited his hybridizing to iris. He has wonderful columbine and flowers of the daisy family and a monstrous bush of a huge single pink peony that is, I am sure, without a rival in the entire world. Such a visit is a great inspiration to an ambitious beginner.







# Iris in Region 14

GEORGE W. WEDGEWOOD, (CALIF.)

With many Portland-bound Annual Meeting travelers passing through, we shall probably have a record number of visitors to see iris in the valley region of North Central California this year. Perhaps some of them will be interested in comparing notes and observations with those that I made in this area last year.

As usual, we had had an "unusual" California winter — warm and dry with only occasional frosts until the first part of April, at which time the iris were fairly well advanced and some of the earlier ones were starting to bloom. The first week in April brought almost continuous rain, lasting throughout the entire month and interrupted at intervals by days when the north winds blew a gale — all of which did the iris no particular good and encouraged a new outbreak of bacterial leaf blight both in my own garden and in Sacramento.

May second turned off bright and warm, and Mrs. Wedgewood and I decided to accept Mrs. G. G. Pollock's kind invitation to visit her gardens in Sacramento. Adequately to describe the beauty of these extensive gardens and the graciousness of Mr. and Mrs. Pollock would be difficult. Upon arrival we were escorted to the patio for a hot buffet luncheon and talk of this and that with other iris enthusiasts and breeders. This garden has somewhat the effect of a sunken garden with a pool in the center of the lawn. One side and the back are elevated, with steps leading to the larger garden which extends through to the next block. The side terrace is planted more or less informally to shrubs and camellias, with ferns and drifts of forget-me-nots underneath.

The velvety green lawn of the larger garden in the back (Blue Borders, I believe it is called) is surrounded by camellias, rhododendrons, azaleas and shrubs with which I am not familiar, and along the paths are again drifts of forget-me-nots, blue violets and pansies. Planted among and in front of the shrubs are occasional clumps of yellow or white iris. The whole effect was a restful



PEAK BLOOM!

(Burkett photo)

"It is a treat to see the newer and better iris growing in quantities . . ." as Mrs. Pollock grows them in her Sacramento garden.



harmony of soft pinks, whites and yellows, set off by blue borders. At the near end of this garden is a most inviting large swimming pool. To the right of the house and extending to the front walk is the iris garden. Mrs. Pollock is neither a commercial grower nor a hybridizer, but a collector of the finer iris originated by growers throughout the world. It is a treat for those of us who cannot immediately have the newer and better iris to have an opportunity of seeing them growing beautifully and in quantities. While Mr. Pollock prefers to give the impression that Mrs. Pollock is the irisarian, he displays more than an amateur's interest and knowledge; I am of the opinion that he is perhaps as much an enthusiast as she.

Among those that were in bloom which I was seeing for the first time, Rocket stood out even from a distance as a glowing rich orange blend with nicely flaring form and good substance. Mellow-glow was a rich blend that also gave a good account of itself and was especially attractive growing next to Nightfall, with its deep violet standards and rich velvety dark purple falls, although I did not care so much for Nightfall as for some other dark iris because of the slight white reticulations at the haft. Violet Symphony was stunning with large flaring medium blue flowers of excellent proportions and a good stalk. I was glad to see a clump of Clara Noyes tucked away at one side. I still like Clara and was pleased to know that others appreciate the graceful beauty of this old-timer.

Gay Senorita is definitely not an iris for the hot valley — even the newly opened flowers have a dull appearance and the older ones fade badly. Blue Rhythm stood out as the best of the light blues seen here and in my opinion is superior to Helen McGregor. Helen McGregor, both here and at Berkeley, although of large size and heavy substance with beautifully ruffled form, lacked clarity of color. Francelia had color and little else, being superseded in my opinion by Cloth of Gold in the same color range with better form and substance. I was disappointed in Rouge Bouquet which I saw here and subsequently at Salbach's and in my own garden. As it grows in Sacramento it could hardly be classed with the reds, being a red-orange blend of good form and proportions. The newly opened flower is beautiful but lacks substance and fades quickly. I understand, however, that it is producing fine seedlings for Mrs. Whiting and the Sasses. To me Louise Blake continues to be the





Burkett photo

Clumps of yellow and white iris accent beautifully planted shrub and flower borders around the spacious green lawn at the Pollock home.

most disappointing of the highly rated iris; she persists in blooming on short stalks down in the foliage.

Priscilla is snow white even to the beard, clean and well branched but not tall here. Cloud Castle was a large ruffled light blue of good substance and flaring form — a real addition to the light blues and one I shall want to have.

From the Pollocks' we drove to the small garden of Mr. W. O. Pankost who, in spite of his limited area, had many fine iris beautifully grown. Lady Mohr, as always, was giving a good account of herself. Especially outstanding here were clumps of Pacific Sunset growing a good 36 inches tall with generous blooms in a medley of pink, copper, yellow and blue difficult to describe. It is a blend that holds its color and has eye-appeal and garden value. Bronze Copper was a rich bronzy brown with a golden sheen and a slight dash of blue at the end of the beard. Mr. Pankost says



this one holds up best when given afternoon shade. Solid Mahogany was performing as well as I have ever seen it. Across the street from his home Mr. Pankost has commercial plantings. Especially outstanding was Mulberry Rose, which holds its rich coloring well. Glowport was almost as rich as Solid Mahogany although not so large. Mr. Pankost states this one consistently blooms again in the fall for him. Here again was a drift of Clara Noyes.

On Sunday, May 9, we stopped at the garden of Misses Clara and Ruth Rees in San Jose. Of interest to me was a planting of Thais, the pollen parent of Snow Flurry, which she explained probably accounted for the ruffling of Snow Flurry as well as the lack of branches. Miss Rees is using Snow Flurry apparently quite extensively in her breeding and with good results. Especially outstanding was a fair sized planting of her Ruffled Bouquet from Snow Flurry X Sunburst. The crisp ruffled flowers had light lemon-yellow standards and white falls brushed and edged with the same color as the standards. It had many buds to the stalk with several open at once. It is an iris that you would go back to look at twice.

### **Color Carpet**

From San Jose we drove up to the Bay Shore Highway to San Francisco and thence across the Bay Bridge to Berkeley to visit Mr. Carl Salbach's gardens. Here one sees a panorama of color resembling an Oriental carpet spread over the sloping hills with a green border of trees. The iris were doing exceptionally well. As usual, I headed for the planting of Lady Mohr; I like it better every time I see it. In established clumps the Lady shows to best advantage. One of the first things Mr. Salbach asked was, "Did you see Jory's blue onco?" It is tall, well branched, with the form of Lady Mohr but larger, in the truest sky blue to be imagined, with typical onco veining in a slightly deeper shade of blue. It is all blue with very little, if any, of the lavender, orchid or purple, and is named "Morning Blue." Mr. Salbach told me that Prof. Jory had several other remarkable oncos in his garden, but we did not have time to stop there. Among blues, Salbach's Berkeley Blue is outstanding. It is a large medium light blue self with outstanding clarity of color and with good form and proportions. I have wondered for the last three years why we have not heard more of it. The Admiral was good this year in the medium blue class with a clean haft and

blue tipped beard. Deep Velvet put on a show all its own. Destiny probably had the blackest falls of any with deep blue-purple standards and a bright yellow beard, but I prefer Blue and Gold, a much older iris. Helen McGregor here was identical with the blooms seen elsewhere; from the standpoint of color I believe this iris has been over-rated.

Among blends, Pacific Sunset was again most outstanding with tall stalks and good branching. California Rose is large with waved, salmon-rose petals of a depth of color seldom seen in the blends. Running a close race with Pacific Sunset is Amber Gem, a subtle blending of amber, gold, red, yellow and a touch of blue at the end of the yellow beard. Mellowglow was rich and glowing as was Stardom, an older iris but still good.

There were many fine whites, but Snow Flurry and Easter Morn hold their own here in California. In the Bay Region the former might be classed as a very light blue. Matterhorn was a large, well formed flower but with weak substance. White Wedgewood to me is a dull white with only fair substance, and I fail to find that "blue beard." Cigarette is the only outstanding cream I have seen. It is a tall, well branched, pure buff cream. (I have not yet seen Amandine.)

Spindrift, among the pinks, was somewhat pinker than I had previously seen it but it was short of stalk, as usual, and should be planted alone as I cannot imagine it harmonizing with anything else. Overture was also short and small of bloom, but apparently a first-year bloom and perhaps not representative. Rose Pearl appealed to me as strongly as it did in 1947; its delightful cream and soft rosy pink give a very pink effect in a clump. It is floriferous, with fairly good substance and a richness of color for so light toned an iris. It has garden value.

Whether Top Score belongs with the blends or the near-variegatas would be difficult to say. It has clear bright gold standards with falls of reddish brown bordered with the same color as the standards. For contrast it is a "gasper" but I am not certain whether I really like it or whether it is just one of those glamour girls that one tires of quickly.

From Sultan's Robe Mr. Salbach tells me he is producing some unusual seedlings. Some of these still under number certainly show promise.

Solid Mahogany was large and rich and an eventual "must have."



Black and Gold did not appeal to me as strongly as it had done previously; however, for color contrast it is rich and fascinating — a taller and more refined Casque d'Or. Claret Velvet is, as the name implies, a deep velvety claret in color, floriferous, clean and rich with solid colored hafts and a brownish orange beard.

Perhaps I should skip the plicatas inasmuch as I care the least for this type of iris. My taste in these runs to the more delicately patterned old-timers such as Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seduction. Blue Shimmer is too heavily splashed with too bright a blue and has the appearance of being neither self nor plicata. Among the more heavily colored old-timers there is nothing better than a good planting of Mme. Louis Aureau. In the Salbach garden it was large, soft in color, with good substance and form and was exceptionally free-blooming. Aldura would be my choice of the newer and more delicately colored plicatas. It is a large, tall, well formed lavender-blue and white plicata with the more delicate stitching of Los Angeles and San Francisco. Love Affair is a floriferous dusty rose and white plicata, unattractive to me but may appeal to the colored plicata fans.

### **In the Land of the Gold Rush**

On Sunday, May 16, we visited the Rainbow Hybridizing Gardens just out of Placerville. The gardens are situated on a hilltop in the low Sierras with a setting reminiscent of Salbach's in the Berkeley Hills. From the extensive plantings, the healthy growth and the large number of varieties noted on the label stakes, one could easily imagine what a sight this must be in peak bloom. Unfortunately, we were just about a week too soon for the tall bearded iris which were just showing scattered bloom on some early varieties. Next to the house in a sheltered location were a few clumps of tall bearded in full bloom. Among these was Essig's Mission Madonna with very large full flowers, falls somewhat elongated but broad and full and nicely waved. The standards were cream and the white falls were brushed deep yellow to gold around the beard and haft. Texture and substance were very good, and for a flower of this size there was gracefulness of form and richness of color difficult to describe. California Peach growing nearby was larger and taller than I had seen it elsewhere. Great Lakes was larger and with broader falls and clearer color than I had ever seen it. Could it be there is something in that red mountain soil that iris particularly

like or should all credit be given to Mr. Austin for knowing how to grow them? A planting of Gold Rush with its medium sized blooms of deep golden yellow and flaring form showed promise of competing with some of the more recent good yellows. Throughout the gardens vigorous growth and healthy foliage of good color was noticeable.

Worth the trip alone were the oncocyclus species and hybrids. Mr. Austin has many oncocyclus, regelia and onco-regelia hybrids and is growing seedlings in large quantities from them. Aside from stock originating with Mr. Clarence G. White, he told me he was importing both plants and seeds direct from Palestine and Holland. He stated that for the present he is concentrating on 'crosses of onco X onco to build up breeding stock of onco hybrids. The growth habits of these oncos interested me. On many the foliage was small and almost grass-like, rhizomes naturally quite small, but with the most immense and exotic blooms perched on top of the short wiry stems. They are said to be hardy here in the mountains where winters can be cold with varying amounts of snowfall.

### **Home Again**

In my own garden in Brentwood I had many surprises last year. Because of the prevailing off-winter of 1947-'48, many old iris and some new ones decided to bloom in midwinter; hence they had either no spring bloom or very stunted secondary bloom stalks. Matula, Mrs. J. L. Gibson, Sunset Haze and various Radiant seedlings all tried to bloom in December. Radiant and two of its bright yellow seedlings withstood the few frosts and bloomed all winter long.

Two of the finest to bloom for me were Hills of Gold and Cloth of Gold, both very different. The former on an established clump stretched up over 50 inches tall and on a one-year clump a little over 40 inches. It is well branched with many buds to the branch so that it blooms over a long period of time. In color it is a rich buttercup-yellow self with such smooth coloring that the blooms have a velvety appearance. Substance is good and blooms last well with color holding up better than most yellows in the hot sun. Cloth of Gold is just as smooth and as fine a flower but several shades deeper in color and with the richest full plushy orange beard. These are two fine yellows that belong to a class with Berkeley Gold which I always did think superior to Ola Kala.



Tea Rose is good either in sun or part shade. The flowers are full and flaring, color quite like a tea rose in the sun but a deeper rusty pink in part shade, with a touch of blue at the end of the beard. It glistens and there is a lilt to the falls. Vatican Purple is a pleasant surprise; a self of rich blue-purple even to the haft and beard. It has good size, fine form and nicely waved flaring falls with standards that remain closed.

Melitza shot up about 50 inches tall and started blooming during our cooler weather and consequently had more color and garden value than usual.

One iris that can be counted on here to be a highlight in the garden is Old Rose. On a three-year clump there were eighteen bloom stalks, the flowers large and firm and the color rich and glowing. Why Mr. Salbach introduced this one with apologies, I have never understood. It does branch a bit high but is no worse an offender than many others. It is a good solid clumper, and there are so many blooms per stalk and branch that it is a mass of color from early in the season on through to the end. Let's have more apologies and more Old Roses.

Among my own, of particular interest are some Snow Flurry seedlings. Out of about twenty from Snow Flurry X Easter Morn only three bloomed last year. All are very thrifty growers with big broad foliage and large rhizomes. One of these is about the largest, clearest white I have seen. It has very heavy substance, and the large round falls which are in good proportion\* to the standards are stiffly flaring and nicely waved. The haft is clean with no hint of yellow or cream, but with a plushy deep yellow beard. The branching is fairly good and well placed but on a first-year plant blooms tend to hug the main stalk a little too much. I sincerely hope this one won't turn out to be a second-year boomerang. Both of the other two had excellent substance and flaring ruffled form with fair branching — one a blue-white and the other a creamy white like Easter Morn. All three are very fragrant, a character that Snow Flurry seems to transmit readily to its offspring. Among seedlings blooming from Snow Flurry X Melitza, the falls are somewhat more elongated, mostly creamy white with olive-buff to chartreuse brushings at the haft. These also are waved and fragrant. The branching on these is higher as would be expected, since Melitza itself is a high brancher. No tangerine beards showed up and I didn't really expect any. However, these buffy whites

show plainly the Melitza heritage, and I have hopes that used as pod parents in crosses with some of the tangerine bearded pinks "those beards" may show up in the next generation. I say "pod parents" because none of these seedlings has any pollen — again like Snow Flurry. If the theory works it might be a means of introducing size, substance and ruffling to the existing pink lines. Anyhow, it's fun to dream of an iris with the branching of Purissima, Easter Morn or San Francisco, with the size, substance and form of Snow Flurry and the color of Overture or some of the newer Hall flamingoes or Loomis sea shells.

Among the onco hybrids and oncobreds, Farcross started off the season by blooming in February on a clump in a protected location, and in early April and on through the first two weeks of May on another clump planted in the open. Where it can be grown there is nothing richer than this tall black-red with smooth hafts and brownish beard. Stems are slender but strong and straight. Sheriffa, which bloomed later, has about the same growth habits and form and has been variously described for color. I will not attempt a description, but Sheriffa is something to be remembered. N. J. Thomas and Mohrson, very similar in color except that the former has lighter standards, were both very large and of fine substance, but I care for them the least of the Wm. Mohr hybrids. Ormohr was late but good. I much prefer the slightly smaller and more delicately colored Soquel. My Day was huge but the coloring a bit speckled. Elmohr seems to do its best for me on new plantings. Divisions planted the previous summer produced the largest blooms I have seen in an iris. They would have made fine exhibition blooms, but they were too large to be associated with the usual orchid-like beauty of the oncocyclis hybrids. Capitola was immense and rich in color, but is primarily a breeder's iris — but what a breeder if the results obtained by Messrs. Salbach and Jory are examples! Miss Muffet probably is just a collector's iris. She is a squatty, misshapen little wench that looks as if she got herself all covered with curds and whey and then forgot to clean up before coming to the party. However, she still attracts attention as an oddity and we shouldn't be too critical inasmuch as Miss Muffet was probably the first outstanding color break in the Wm. Mohr descendants. It is notable that these real breaks have not come through direct use of Wm. Mohr, but through Capitola.

After the year's iris tours I am of the opinion that probably for



the past few years attention and efforts of a great many of the breeders (including some of us amateurs) have been diverted to the search for new colors, particularly the elusive pinks and true reds. I can now more and more appreciate Mr. Jesse Wills' brief for the blues in the BULLETIN for April, 1947:

"We need and love the blues we have . . . whether they are truly blue or not, for the lavender and wistaria shades . . . can be very lovely. Many are needed for garden use to give a feeling of distance, to soften or set off the other colors we are getting. The cool shades of these flowers come to mind when we think of iris, and seem to go with the grace and symmetry of the iris form. They personify the calm beauty of a late spring evening."

I trust that any of the foregoing comments, whether made as statements or as personal opinions, will be taken for opinions only, inasmuch as according to some philosophies there is doubt as to the validity of facts beyond the realm of appearances, and we can't even prove that we're here. When I saw Jory's Morning Blue I was sure they were right, and I was out of this world.

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## *Iris Calendar in Central California*

MRS. A. E. MORRISON, (CALIF.)

The interior valleys of Central California with their naturally hot, dry summers and moderate winter rainfall of 15 to 18 inches make an ideal home for bearded iris and other types. There are indications that bearded iris will be used in ever increasing numbers, and we hope that our gardeners before too long will realize that iris round the calendar can be a reality and not just a caption for a BULLETIN report.

In a suburban area adjoining Sacramento a garden club is concentrating this spring on a project featuring bearded iris in beds and borders in members' gardens. A city gardener, lacking ground space, is growing popular iris in tubs which are placed on porch and patio. Mrs. Robert H. Fawcett, of Galt, reports that another garden club, in the process of converting a school house into a club house, has made a small planting of bearded iris and will add

more. This plan is ideal for it makes use of a plant involving little care in summer, and it could well be extended to landscaping plans for community meeting places, grange halls, church and school yards, and possibly in limited areas along the highways.

The parade of bearded iris is at its height from mid-April to mid-May with a scattering of earlier and later blooms. If the good old variety San Gabriel is retained, its blooms in late March will usher in the season. Otherwise, China Maid, Purissima, Happy Days and Easter Morn are among the first to bloom. A group of veterans and newcomers which follows soon after includes Berkeley Gold, Blue Shimmer, Brunhilde, City of Lincoln, Copper Lustre, Elmohr, Fair Elaine, Flora Zenor, Golden Majesty, Great Lakes, Ola Kala, Prairie Sunset, San Francisco, Sierra Blue, Snow Flurry, The Admiral, Tiffany and Wabash. The sparkling Lighthouse rounds out the season. All these grow to perfection in the Sacramento garden of a member of the AIS, Mrs. Harold O. Protzman. In other gardens these same varieties are replaced in part by other members of the "first hundred."

Dutch iris, and to a lesser extent, Spanish and English iris, must compete with bearded iris, for they flower at about the same time. Wedgewood, Yellow Queen, King of the Blues, and Emperor are most widely used. At planting time last fall the new hybrid iris, National Velvet, was added experimentally.

While the horticulturist concentrates on the foregoing, the flower arranger will be sure to have *Iris foetidissima*, not for its undistinguished flower, but for the fascinating red-seeded pods which split open in November, provided plants have had the benefit of full sunshine. The seed pods are delightful for winter arrangements with other dried material. No one should be deterred by the word *foetidissima*, because the unpleasant odor comes only from bruised leaves.

*Iris pseudacorus* is occasionally grown for its bright yellow flowers which appear in May. It does well here under ordinary garden conditions. Earlier and much more in evidence is the lovely little crested *I. tectorum alba*.

*Iris siberica* is disappointing in the small home garden because its flowering season is so short, and it is little used.

Along in June the Japanese iris with its flat blossoms and Oriental feeling appears in isolated plantings. A bed in Capitol Park was reasonably good for a number of years, but never in this



area has the writer seen *I. kaempferi* growing with the same lushness and profusion of blossoms observed in a waterside planting in Victoria, B. C. It would seem that the inland section of Central California is not the best place for water-loving iris.

Autumn welcomes a second or third blooming of *Iris pumila*, excellent for borders or planted in drifts. *Pumila* blooms first in spring with the big parade of other iris. There is Autumn Queen, a snow-white; *caerulea*, a sky blue; Jean Siret, chrome yellow; and Lieutenant de Chavagnac, violet.

From October to March *Iris stylosa* produces its cheerful, bright lavender-blue flowers on short stems. This is a plant which does best if kept on the dry side in summer and left undisturbed. Shearing the thick foliage in August keeps the plant in hand and gives the flowers a chance to show off to better advantage.

*Iris reticulata* blooms in March, bringing the fragrance of violets and lavender blossoms rather similar in form to the Dutch iris. It does well in rockery or garden, and a ground cover of white arabis or wine red pansies will provide a lovely background.

Much interest in the iris in Central California stems from the work of Sydney Mitchell, Carl Salbach and E. O. Essig of Berkeley and Lloyd Austin of Placerville. Mrs. George G. Pollock, a regional vice-president of the AIS, opens her Sacramento garden annually at iris time, where the best in bearded iris can be seen. W. O. Pankost, iris enthusiast and judge, welcomes visitors too. It seems that the iris calendar in Central California can be well filled indeed; it depends upon the vision and questing mind of every home gardener.

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#### SUSTAINER

Enclosed is check for \$1.50, which with the \$3.50 previously sent will cover a Sustaining Membership for 1949.

I feel this way about it: if my garden is short one iris plant which the \$1.50 would have bought, I'll be the only one to know it, but if the activities of our AIS are curtailed, everyone will be the loser. So here is my check

— and more power to us all and our organization.

—Mrs. T. B. Revell, Jr., Grenada, Miss.

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#### SENSIBLE SYMPOSIUM

I am glad to see that you are now using a little common sense in compiling the "Hundred Best" list. Statistics are wonderful!

—Dorothy Stoner, Merriam, Kans.

# 1948 REGIONAL PERFORMANCE RATINGS

L. F. RANDOLPH, (N. Y.)

*Chairman, Scientific Committee*

The objective of the rating program organized by the Scientific Committee last year was to obtain reliable information concerning the performance of varieties in different regions of the country. It was assumed that most varieties would do better in some regions than others. Perhaps a few outstanding varieties would do well in all regions. The problem was to devise a system of recording ratings that would accurately evaluate regional performance.

The ratings submitted by the participating judges in 1948 were an improvement over earlier ratings. But there is need for further improvement. There were wide discrepancies in the ratings submitted by judges of the same region. To what extent such discrepancies were due to differences in the performance of varieties in nearby gardens or to differences in the way the varieties were rated by different judges is not known. It should not be too difficult to standardize judging procedures to obtain more comparable ratings, but if differences in the performance of varieties within regions approaches in magnitude the differences between regions it would be futile to attempt to perfect a system of regional performance ratings.

In the accompanying chart regional ratings are given for the 6 regions in which more than 10 judges participated. Only varieties scored by 5 or more judges were included. The number of scores submitted and the average for the region are included in the table. To compute these regional ratings for individual varieties the mean value of all the scores submitted for each of the 9 characteristics included on the score card was computed and multiplied by 10 to establish the ratings on the basis of 100 as a perfect score.

The resulting figure, called the regional rating, was on the average approximately 10 points lower than it was anticipated that it would be, due primarily to the hesitancy on the part of most judges to record scores higher than 9 for any one characteristic. Since there was a logical tendency to record scores as low as 7, or even lower, for some characters the averages were mostly in the seventies or low eighties rather than in the eighties and low nineties. The results this year achieved wider spread in the ratings than was



obtained with the old numerical ratings, which were mostly in the high eighties and low nineties.

There was the expected tendency for some judges to submit rather high scores while others submitted much lower scores. However, the low and high judgments tended to balance each other and by limiting the compilation of averages to varieties scored by 5 or more judges the means are more significant than they would have been if the averages had included scores submitted by fewer than 5 judges.

Limitation of space did not permit inclusion of the range in the ratings submitted for individual varieties within regions. These varied from a high in the low nineties to a low that was unusual in the sixties, the average range being in the neighborhood of 15 or 20 points. Differences of a few points in regional ratings were not as significant as they would have been if narrow ranges had been involved.

It is planned to assemble the ratings from regions not included in the table to study the possibility of combining them with ratings from adjoining regions. Eventually it may be desirable for rating purposes to establish super regions of relatively homogeneous soil and climatic conditions and limit the compilation of regional performance ratings to these larger areas.

VARIETY	REGION 1		6		9		15		17		18	
	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating
Amigo .....	10	74	12	75	11	78	13	69	14	73	13	76
Angelus .....	7	80	8	78	8	72	..	..	8	81	16	73
Arctic .....	5	69	6	70	10	69	7	74	12	77	12	64
Azure Skies.....	9	74	5	71	13	76	13	78	11	74	15	75
Bandmaster .....	..	..	8	74	7	72	5	70	6	79	12	72
Berkeley Gold.....	7	77	..	..	..	..	10	79	12	76	11	74
Blue Rhythm.....	7	79	..	..	8	78	10	71	6	83	16	81
Blue Shimmer.....	8	73	10	75	15	73	13	72	11	74	17	78
Bryce Canyon.....	7	73	..	..	9	76	10	77	10	75	11	75
California Gold.....	6	72	7	73	9	68	8	70	12	68	12	64
Captain Wells.....	8	74	..	..	12	74	9	71	7	69	10	74
Cascade Splendor...	6	83	..	..	9	75	6	75	6	70	10	78
Castalia .....	5	77	..	..	7	74	..	..	7	67	6	70
China Maid.....	9	69	7	73	9	64	16	77	13	70	18	70
Chivalry .....	10	81	..	..	10	78	10	77	8	80	15	77
Christabel .....	9	76	8	78	13	75	11	73	13	74	15	73
City of Lincoln.....	9	73	9	72	9	71	11	73	12	66	16	73
Copper Rose .....	6	71	..	..	7	71	6	71	..	..	11	68
Daybreak .....	8	67	6	72	6	75	10	72	11	68	14	69

VARIETY	REGION 1		6		9		15		17		18	
	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating
Deep Velvet	8	72	7	72	11	72	12	73	11	73	12	76
Elmohr	7	71	9	77	13	70	14	78	14	73	20	72
Elsa Sass	7	69	8	74	7	69	9	72	13	69	18	71
Fair Elaine	10	72	9	72	9	65	16	77	11	70	14	71
Florentine	..	..	5	73	5	73	7	71	8	74	6	64
Gloriole	8	72	8	76	13	73	..	..	13	75	14	71
Golden Fleece	5	71	5	77	7	74	9	72	10	72	17	75
Golden Majesty	8	72	8	76	6	69	16	78	15	76	13	73
Golden Treasure	6	75	6	73	8	73	6	76	9	73	14	74
Grand Canyon	6	68	6	77	8	70	13	70	10	70	14	73
Great Lakes	11	78	11	82	16	77	15	81	14	80	17	82
Gudrun	8	70	10	73	14	69	8	75	14	70	18	71
Helen McGregor	10	83	..	..	9	77	13	79	6	75	13	76
Katherine Fay	5	72	..	..	15	80	9	78	..	..	13	74
Lady Mohr	5	78	..	..	8	79	14	80	10	78	12	75
Lighthouse	7	76	8	78	10	76	8	75	11	73	14	73
Los Angeles	7	77	8	78	11	74	14	79	15	77	15	71
Mary E. Nicholls	5	68	6	72	8	75	12	73	8	73	13	73
Mary Vernon	8	79	..	..	8	74	8	75	6	68	10	76
Master Charles	8	81	..	..	12	78	10	76	8	79	10	80
Matterhorn	6	72	8	77	9	71	6	74	10	70	16	74
Melanie	6	76	6	75	10	74	11	73	11	72	16	74
Melitza	7	65	7	70	9	63	13	73	10	70	13	65
Ming Yellow	..	..	6	79	10	70	6	74	11	73	14	70
Miss California	..	..	5	67	..	..	10	75	11	72	14	72
Missouri	6	71	7	77	8	64	8	74	15	74	15	77
Moonlight Madona	7	74	..	..	8	76	7	70	10	72	12	74
Mulberry Rose	7	71	9	77	8	73	14	77	10	75	15	79
Nightfall	6	74	..	..	11	78	13	77	11	77	13	75
Ola Kala	8	76	8	80	13	80	11	78	13	79	19	80
Pink Ruffles	..	..	..	..	6	75	6	75	7	68	6	71
Prairie Sunset	7	68	10	70	10	71	12	74	13	70	18	72
Priscilla	8	74	..	..	6	78	8	74	7	76	13	78
Ranger	5	71	12	78	8	74	13	74	7	76	11	79
Red Valor	5	70	6	71	7	70	8	73	7	74	12	73
Remembrance	5	69	..	..	6	76	7	71	8	73	12	72
Sable	9	73	9	79	16	75	15	74	10	75	18	73
Sharkskin	7	79	..	..	6	78	..	..	..	..	9	76
Shining Waters	5	65	7	75	5	70	14	81	13	75	10	75
Snoqualmie	8	80	6	79	10	76	10	77	7	72	13	76
Snow Carnival	9	68	..	..	..	..	9	77	6	77	8	72
Snow Flurry	9	72	7	77	12	71	15	76	13	73	12	72
Solid Mahogany	..	..	..	..	7	70	7	76	7	74	13	73
Spindrift	6	67	5	72	5	70	10	74	8	71	13	74
Spun Gold	9	71	10	79	13	74	8	72	14	74	16	75
The Admiral	10	79	6	75	13	81	13	78	10	72	13	75
The Red Douglas	7	73	9	74	9	68	9	73	13	73	15	72
Tiffanja	10	83	..	..	8	76	10	77	8	74	14	76
Tobacco Road	6	71	5	78	5	69	11	75	9	73	14	71
Violet Symphony	7	74	6	76	5	69	9	78	10	72	10	74
Wabash	9	76	10	76	13	72	15	71	14	73	17	77



# Analysis of the 1948 Experimental Ratings

DR. E. L. CLARK, (ILL.)

*Chairman, Rating Techniques Committee*

During the fall months and Christmas vacation an analysis was made of some of the experimental ratings of 1948. This analysis was limited to those seventeen irises which received the largest number of ratings — to all those which had been rated by more than 120 judges. Since we were interested in regional differences and already knew that averages based on a small number of judges were not to be depended upon, we omitted those regions with fewer than ten judges reporting. At first we studied the ratings on the well-known irises which were received from five regions but later ratings from two additional regions were included. In all 1283 sets of 9 judgments on an iris were used and weighted totals based on these sets of 9 judgments were obtained for merit ratings and for performance ratings, making 2566 weighted totals. In an attached table are averages for each iris by regions for all the merit ratings. A similar table of data for performance ratings has appeared in the January BULLETIN.

The general method of analysis of the weighted performance ratings on irises was to study differences among the total ratings given to irises. In an ideal set of judgments we should expect the difference between two ratings to be due to the fact that the ratings were on two different irises and that one iris was better than the other; or, possibly, the two ratings might be on the same iris and be different because the two ratings came from different regions and the iris in question did better in one region than in another. It was hoped that much of the difference which is to be found between pairs of ratings would be associated with the varieties of irises or with the regions. A careful study of these differences (called analysis of variance) showed that less than 4% of all the differences (of the total variance) could be associated with regions, less than 18% associated with the variety of iris, about 34% of it associated with raters, and the remainder — nearly 50% — could not be associated with anything.

To amplify this last statement — the average of the 1283 performance ratings was just about 82.4. If the differences between each rating and 82.4 are squared and then summed the total is 115,244. Now, if all regional differences were eliminated by adding

# 1948 MERIT RATINGS

VARIETY	REGION 1		REGION 3		REGION 6		REGION 9		REGION 15		REGION 17		REGION 18	
	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating
Amigo .....	10	83.4	5	83.8	12	84.3	11	87.5	13	77.4	14	81.9	13	83.4
Blue Shimmer.....	8	80.7	1	84.0	10	83.0	15	82.6	13	80.0	11	82.0	17	86.6
China Maid .....	9	76.5	4	86.2	7	82.0	9	72.2	16	85.4	13	76.6	18	76.4
Christabel .....	9	82.0	5	84.2	8	85.4	13	82.5	11	81.2	13	80.9	15	81.8
City of Lincoln.....	9	80.1	2	77.5	9	79.9	9	78.4	11	81.7	12	72.4	16	81.9
Elmohr .....	7	80.4	4	73.5	9	85.9	13	78.4	14	85.5	14	81.0	20	82.3
Fair Elaine .....	10	80.1	5	78.0	9	80.0	9	74.0	16	85.4	11	77.2	14	79.0
Golden Majesty .....	7	81.7	3	84.3	8	82.9	6	76.8	16	85.6	15	84.2	13	81.9
Great Lakes .....	11	86.9	5	84.8	11	91.2	16	85.6	15	89.5	14	88.5	17	90.6
Gudrun .....	8	79.2	5	81.8	10	81.4	14	77.5	8	84.7	14	78.7	17	81.4
Los Angeles .....	7	86.2	4	83.2	8	86.5	11	84.4	14	87.6	15	86.1	15	74.6
Ola Kala .....	8	84.1	2	78.5	8	90.0	13	89.6	11	88.2	13	88.2	19	89.0
Prairie Sunset .....	7	75.9	5	78.8	10	78.0	10	79.2	12	81.8	13	78.0	18	77.8
Sable .....	9	82.0	5	79.6	9	88.3	16	84.9	15	82.8	10	84.1	18	82.6
Snow Flurry .....	9	81.1	2	84.5	7	85.3	12	79.3	15	84.0	13	81.7	12	80.8
The Red Douglas.....	7	80.9	4	71.0	9	81.8	9	77.3	9	80.8	13	82.5	15	79.1
Wabash .....	9	84.3	5	82.2	10	84.0	13	80.7	15	79.4	14	82.4	17	85.3



.7 to each of the 144 ratings of Region 1 to make their average 82.4, and subtracting .2 from each of the 498 ratings of Regions 15 and 18 to make their ratings also average 82.4, and in similar ways adjusting all the ratings of the other regions to make them average 82.4—if all these things are done to make the regions average alike, then the total sum of the squares is now not 115,224, but is 111,109. All of this detail is given to show how little can be attributed to regions.

We all know that certain irises do better in some regions than in others, but in the maze of error which compose our ratings, regional differences become relatively small. On the other hand, look at the importance of rating tendency of the individual judge. In Region 1, for example, Judge 8 and Judge 25 gave average ratings in the 90's while Judge 23 had an average of about 65 and Judge 3 averaged about 70, and these men were all rating just about the same irises. These judges were so variant in rating tendencies that more than 60% of all the differences could be attributed to the judges.

Ideally differences should be attributed to the irises rated and not to the judges. If all high and low rating tendencies are eliminated by adding a fixed amount to each rating of a judge or by subtracting a fixed amount from each rating of a judge so that the average rating for each judge becomes 82.4, the grand average of our sum of squares is reduced by 39,362. If all irises are made to average 82.4 by a similar treatment, the sum of squares is reduced by only 19,436. It is strange (and sad) that differences in rating tendencies of individual judges should be twice as great in making for differences as are the irises themselves. As has already been indicated, nearly half of the differences could be associated with nothing and so are classified as residual error.

Region 15 illustrates repeatedly other short-comings in these ratings. Judges 244 and 254, to take but two examples, gave nothing but ratings of 10 in hardness even though they each rated dozens of irises. Their ratings in hardness, therefore, had nothing whatever to do with differences in their total ratings and in this sense it is as if they had not taken the trouble to rate hardness. The fact that these two judges, and several others of this region, gave us no information about relative hardness suggests that their judgments in other categories are not very trustworthy.

Another judge from this region illustrates another rating tend-

ency which fails to inspire confidence in the validity of these ratings. Azure Skies, Captain Wells, China Maid, Elmohr, Great Lakes, Lady Mohr, Los Angeles, Mulberry Rose, Sable, Shining Waters, Snow Flurry and The Admiral were each given nine maximum ratings straight across the board by this one judge. Without reference to possible weakness of the irises named, such ratings do not suggest discriminating consideration of the iris traits. Such a large number of maximum ratings without a single lower rating almost obliges us to believe the ratings were carelessly made.

While there are ways of making partial allowance for differences in rating tendencies in judges, there is no legitimate way of giving meaningful variety to the ratings of judges who are unable or unwilling to make discriminations. And nothing short of throwing away ratings can be done by juggling figures to get rid of that large amount of residual error mentioned above. If the tabulator does resort to discarding the obviously poor sets of ratings he runs a great risk of destroying morale and cooperation among many judges. As for the statistical methods for making partial allowance for differences in rating tendencies among judges, the amount of calculation is great and it cannot wisely be done unless each judge has submitted many ratings. These two limitations are very restrictive.

Although it has not been possible to make any direct comparisons between these ratings and the ones made by the old system, I believe that these ratings are much better than the old ones. The fact is inescapable, however, that these are not very good. The error in them is so great that it is not feasible to look for regional differences; much of what would appear to be a regional difference would in reality be only error. Abandoning the quest for true regional differences removes much of the reason for calculating both a performance and a merit rating. The considerable amount of work involved in calculating a weighted total rating (and their usual similarity when calculated) also argues against having both kinds of ratings.

While I do not wish to determine the steps taken by the Society and while I would like to see good ratings obtained, I am quite discouraged with what we have been able to do.



# Iris Popularity Pattern

ROBERT E. ALLEN, (N. Y.)

*Mr. Allen's article was prepared before voting in the 1948 Symposium had been completed. Results of that balloting, published in the January BULLETIN, were decidedly interesting, and we asked Mr. Allen for additional comments covering them. These are appended as a "postscript" to his article.—Ed.*

"What are your favorite varieties?" This question, addressed each year to the accredited judges of the American Iris Society, has come to have as profound an effect on iris popularity as does the annual award of Oscars by motion picture producers and exhibitors. The distinction of being listed as one of the hundred favorite varieties, even for only one year, has come to be considered as an accolade of no small measure, and the honor of being one of the hundred for year after year is a superlative one.

After eight years of the AIS Symposium, it is apparent that certain patterns of behavior are becoming recognizable. A careful study and analysis of the ranks and numerical ratings as adjusted to a uniform basis leads to the conclusion that the future progress of a variety that has become eligible by receiving Honorable Mention, will follow one of these definite patterns:

1. It may never be recognized as one of the favorite 100.
2. It may receive transitory recognition in the lower brackets for a year or so.
3. It may zoom into the upper brackets and remain there for years as its popularity slowly wanes.
4. It may zoom into the upper ranks and then descend almost as rapidly.
5. It may enter in the lower ranks and gradually climb to a high rank and remain steadily popular for many years before it slowly retires.
6. It may never attain high rank but may remain in the Symposium for years as a dependable variety.
7. It may bounce into the 100 list, move erratically up and down for a few years and then suddenly sink.

It is too early to guess what qualities of an iris make it follow any particular pattern of Symposium performance. It is very clear, however, that such things as a good name, the timing of its introduction, the type of early distribution, and the names of its originator and introducer have much to do with popularity, even though

garden performance is the basis of favorable consideration. Likewise, it is too early to speculate on whether it is some elusive quality not mentioned on score cards or whether it is just all around dependability that keeps varieties in the 100 list for year after year.

Of the dozens of varieties that are good enough to receive Honorable Mention but that never reach the 100 list, no comment need be made. Of the ones that make the list once or twice, we can only suppose that their enthusiastic supporters of one year found other loves before the next questionnaire arrived. Typical of this group are Redwyne, 66, Misty Gold, 70, And Thou, 77, Redward, 91, and Mount Hermon, 92, that placed as indicated in the 1946 Symposium but failed to repeat in 1947. Placing again in 1946 after a lapse in 1945, Treasure Island, 86, Garden Flame, 88, and Red Gleam, 90, likewise failed to repeat in 1947. Those named were only eight of the 29 varieties that failed to make the grade in 1947 after being on the 1946 list of 100. This single performance by many varieties has prompted the suggestion that there be a separate race for the yearlings and that a junior class of 20 or 30 be established for the new varieties of Symposium caliber. Those that maintained their standing the second year would move into the 100 list. This would have the effect of providing an extension to the 100 list and might be desirable to provide a futurity class for new varieties. The same end would be served by modifying the computation method to give equal weight both to the average rating and to the total points received.

The zooming from nowhere into the upper ranks is a phenomenon that characterizes the use of the average of any number of returns as a determinant of rank. It is something like comparing the average wage of the football official who works only a few Saturdays a year with the business or professional man who averages the same daily income for every day of the year. The use of averages makes it possible for a very few judges to push a new variety close to the top of the list the first year, as was the case with Rocket, '45, in 1946 when the votes of only thirty judges give it a twenty-ninth place tie with Pink Reflection, '42, that owed its identical numerical rating of .7800 to the votes of 85 judges. In 1947, the Rocket score of .7040 from 98 judges was much more indicative, but the Pink Reflection score of .5948 from 156 judges was even more convincing. A balanced score for Rocket would



be .5195 and for Pink Reflection .5228. One of the disadvantages of going to the top too quickly is the fact that there is then nowhere to go but down. Typical examples of this performance are:

VARIETY	RANK BY YEARS
California Peach	35-67-96
Day Break	41- 5- 3-13-50
Elmohr	79- 7- 2- 3- 7
Lord Dongan	12-21-37-70
Sunset Serenade	32-45-52-37-100
White Wedgewood	25-47-64

Some of the varieties that have been listed in every Symposium for the last 6 to 8 years have made a lowly entrance into the list but have advanced gradually and maintained a good rank for many years. Such varieties seem to have the best prospect of long-time listing. Some of them are:

VARIETY	RANK BY YEARS
Azure Skies	34-30-15- 9
Blue Shimmer	69-19-13- 6- 5
Grand Canyon	73-55-49-47
Lady Mohr	61-33-19
Mulberry Rose	44-43-21-18
Sharkskin	68-62-48
Spun Gold	71-11- 7- 3- 7-17-35
The Admiral	91-73-51-40-41-32
Violet Symphony	71-52-24-14-12-27

Typical of the varieties that have placed consistently on six to eight lists but have never attained top rank are such standbys as:

VARIETY	RANK BY YEARS
Fair Elaine	3-11-10-11-14-18-36-43
Gloriole	46-21-30-21-36-39-71-85
Golden Majesty	15-15-15- 4- 9-23-48-69
Los Angeles	39-42-42-47-31-28-55-71
Sable	14- 7- 9- 9-10- 5- 9-10
Golden Fleece	43-12- 7-11-22-23-47
Red Valor	79-46-35-30-36-32-72
Snow Flurry	41-24-30-38-27-19-28
Captain Wells	91-35-25-16-38-86
Deep Velvet	16- 5- 8-12-24-49

It will be observed that the first five varieties together with such other famous eight-timers as Great Lakes, Wabash, Prairie Sunset,

Amigo, etc., provide an excellent pattern of sustained Symposium performance. Some other varieties seem to remain stationary for years. Some of these are:

VARIETY	RANK BY YEARS
Bandmaster	59—51—51
Extravaganza	35—34—37
Mary Vernon	84—71—75—84
Moonlight Madonna	42—34—22—42
Solid Mahogany	37—26—33

These varieties will probably establish definite trends in another year or so because as they now are, anything can happen.

The AIS Symposium, founded in 1940 by Mr. Kenneth D. Smith is now one of the best established and most outstanding procedures, of American horticulture. It is distinctly a popularity contest because favorites are asked for, and indicates quality only to the degree that the popularity reflects quality. It is now an institution with the Society because to a very great degree it does what is expected of it and gives members a list of varieties that are favorites with more than 200 judges.

Thus there is available to members of the AIS a service which evaluates that elusive and intangible thing called *popularity*, and there is available also a service that tabulates and presents the more tangible and measurable characteristics known as *performance*. These services are non-competitive, but supplement each other in providing iris lovers with a two-way check on the best liked and best growing iris varieties for their gardens.

#### P. S.

Fortunate is the author who is permitted a "hind-sight" of his work before a second printing, if ever. During the period that has elapsed since the above observations on the Eighth Symposium were first made, the Ninth Symposium has been conducted; numerical ratings computed by a semi-standard practice called "balanced rating" and the results published in BULLETIN 112.

Both before and since the publication of the "Hundred Favorites" of the Ninth Symposium, correspondence with numerous judges has indicated that there are at least three classes of members



as regards what they expect from the Symposium. These may be classified according to their apparent number and what they want, as follows:

1. What are the most popular and most reliable moderate priced varieties, and how popular and well distributed are they?
2. What are the most popular and most reliable varieties grown in my region or state?
3. How do some of the newly introduced varieties rate in comparison with each other?

Various other desires have been expressed but for the most part the Symposium should give answers to the three questions listed if it is to give the maximum service and satisfaction to all members that is intended.

Although not planned for such an effect, the modified computation procedure used in the Ninth Symposium had the definite result of giving the most widely grown and known varieties somewhat higher ratings than the average score method previously used. The computation of scores of regions made it possible to forward lists of regional favorites to regional vice-presidents on request. Too much space would have been required to print these regional results in the BULLETIN.

Thus the action taken this year has gone a long way toward meeting the requirements of the first two groups of members. As regards the third group the action was probably a disappointment because it is very obvious that untried youth cannot run in the same race with the seeded favorites in the Symposium. One or the other must be handicapped to its apparent detriment.

There are good reasons for some members wanting to know how the newly introduced varieties rate in comparison with each other even though it is incorrect to compare them with varieties of far greater distribution. An analysis of the situation shows that the eligible varieties of the Ninth Symposium fell into three approximately equal age groups as indicated in the table:

NINTH SYMPOSIUM

Year Group	No. of Years	Eligibles in Group	First Hundred	Second Fifty	Third 150
'46 - '48	3	97	12	5	80
'42 - '45	4	108	47	19	42
Prior '42	13	95	41	26	28

The possibility of conducting the AIS Symposium in three separate divisions of different ages has interesting implications. It would certainly come nearer to meeting the widely different desires of more members than does the present free-for-all, and it would introduce into the Symposium a line of succession that has long been a successful in live stock judging. Further study and analysis of this three-level type of Symposium may justify the directors of the AIS in considering it as a prospective procedure for the Tenth Symposium of 1949. In the meantime the suggestions and comments of all interested members are most welcome.

Observed results in the 1948 Symposium indicate that it is a mistake to make Honorable Mention varieties immediately eligible for the Symposium. Many Honorable Mention varieties are so poorly distributed and unobserved that most of the judges who acknowledge seeing them, simply did not classify them further. This resulted in a lot of 5-point scores for these newly introduced varieties and such scores kept most of them clear out of the running. It seems obvious therefore that a new variety must have had considerable pre-introduction distribution or must wait at least a year after its Honorable Mention before expecting reasonable consideration in the Symposium. Some judges have gone so far as to recommend that only Award of Merit varieties be considered eligible for the Symposium the year after their award and then only for the junior class; they will be less handicapped and better able to make a good competitive showing.

Many careful and painstaking iris breeders are firmly convinced that Thomas Gray was referring to their creations when he wrote:

“Full many a flower is born to blush unseen  
And waste its sweetness on the desert air.”

This is a persistent complaint from breeders in many parts of the country who would like to have some seedling of theirs at least considered for Highly Commended or Honorable Mention. There is no complete answer to this complaint for a wholesale attempt to follow the procedure that has proved so successful for some breeders would really be disconcerting. The answer seems to be in more members, more local sub-regional clubs, more judges in a small area, and active participation in these local clubs. The fact that none of these complaints comes from New England is significant, but all sections of the country do not have such concentration of iris lovers as does the Boston area.—*Robert E. Allen*, Feb. 22, 1949



# *Iris Japonica and its Hybrids*

J. N. GIRIDLIAN, (CALIF.)

The Evansia section of the genus *Iris* shows more variety of form, size and habit than any of the other sections. It is sometimes difficult for the beginner to believe that the tall bamboo-like *Iris watti* and the little *I. cristata* can in any way be related, or that there can be any connection between the delicate *I. gracilipes* and the bold and large flowered *I. tectorum*. There seems to be a lot of difference between the February blooming habit of *I. japonica* and the May blooming *I. milesi*. Nor can one be inclined to place in the same category the hardy and deciduous *I. lacustris* and the tender and evergreen *I. japonica*.

This great variation is no doubt accounted for at least partially by the fact that the different members of the section come from widely scattered geographic locations. There is much difference in the climatic conditions of our Great Lakes states and Japan, and the lowlands of China and the foothills of the Himalayas. The subject of this article is native to Japan and Central China and grows in woodlands and moist locations.

I have grown this iris, also known as *I. fimbriata*, for the past twenty years with varying degrees of success in culture but never a failure in flowering it. Given a location where it receives either filtered sunlight or afternoon shade it seems to succeed well. It does prefer a light soil rich in humus, and appreciates a heavy mulch of leafmold or pine needles. As it seems to be in active growth throughout the year it should be kept well watered at all times. Here in Southern California it starts to bloom about February 15 when we have had a mild winter and later when the winters are colder. This year we have had unprecedented cold weather and at this writing (Feb. 20) there is not even a sign of flower buds. However a week of mild weather will hasten the blooming and they should start to flower by the middle of March; because of the great number of buds produced, they should be still in bloom by the first of May.

The rhizome is very small and thin and lies just under the mulch of leaves. The roots also are on the surface and do not penetrate to any great extent into the soil. For this reason the large and heavy flower stem has a tendency to lie flat on its side just as it starts to

The flowers of *Iris japonica* are small but perfectly proportioned and exquisite in their delicacy of color and frilly detail.



bloom, especially if there should be a heavy rainstorm or wind. This defect is partially corrected when the plant is grown in open sunlight but then the lovely green leaves are apt to sunburn during the summer heat.

The flowers are very graceful, about 3 inches across. Both the petals and style branches are well fimbriated and the general ground color is light lavender. The crest is deep yellow with some violet spotting in the haft. It is very orchid-like in appearance and locally it is often referred to as the Orchid Iris. It is often used for corsage making even though the flowers are very short-lived.

The foliage is evergreen, shiny bright green on top and dull green on the reverse side. It grows to a height of about two feet and is worth growing for the foliage alone. It makes an excellent effect when grown among ferns and begonias and when well grown makes an excellent ground cover.

There is a hardier variety of this iris named Uwodu. It is unmistakably a variety but is so different from the type in many respects that it can be treated in the garden as a distinct iris. While



the type form has smooth leaves, the leaves of Uwodu are somewhat pleated on the order of *I. tectorum*, and of a brighter green color and more polished surface. While the type form sends out short stolons making compact clumps, Uwodu sends out long, thread-like suckers sometimes three feet long, sending up young plants every few nodes and soon taking over the neighboring territory with a solid mass of foliage.

The flowers on this are a little smaller but with broader segments, making a well rounded flower. The color is nearly white with yellow crest and many well defined deep violet spots in the haft. It is definitely a shy bloomer because it seems to use all of its strength in vegetative growth.

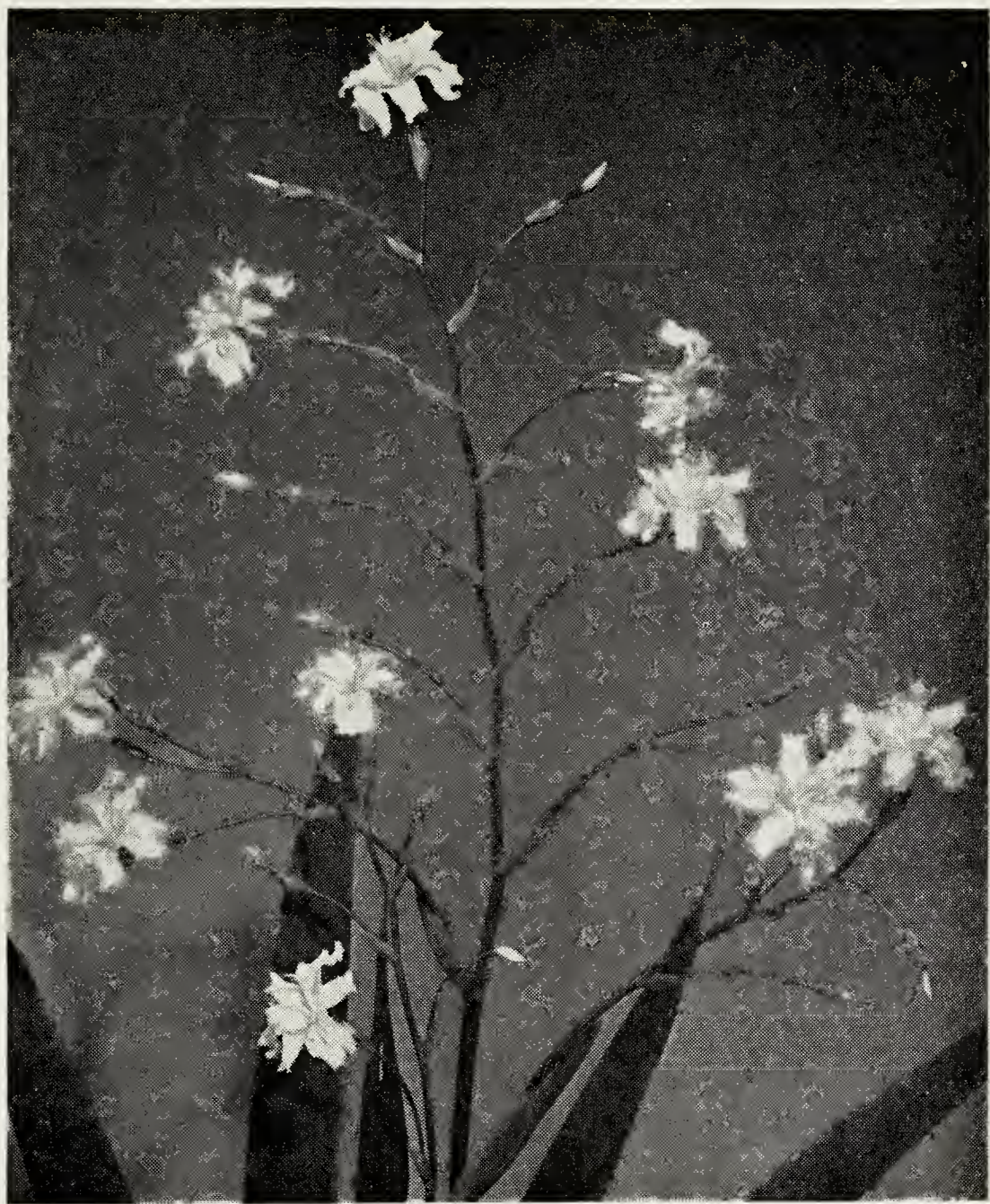
*Iris watti* (confusa) resembles these two types in its flowering habit and shape of flowers. It differs in its above-ground stem or rhizome, if one can call the bamboo-like stems a rhizome. I have seen this species five feet high, holding up the lovely fan of leaves and graceful flower stems without resort to staking. The late W. R. Dykes, writing in *The Gardeners' Chronicle* of May 28, 1921, said, "Among the Evansias something good might come from the crossing of *I. watti*, which does so well when planted out in a cool house. It ought to cross with *I. japonica* . . ." Mr. Dykes was unable to make the cross because he had no luck in flowering the plants and when they did at last bloom they did not respond to cross pollenization. At best they are shy seeders even in Southern California where they bloom profusely.

It seems that Mr. J. C. Stevens, of Greenville, N. Y., and myself, working independently, made this cross at about the same time, except that I used the japonica type form and he used the variety Uwodu. At any rate the hybrids raised were both registered in the year 1936, and in both instances watti was used as the pollen parent. The results obtained, while being equally lovely, are quite distinct in many respects.

Mr. Stevens' variety was named Fairyland and mine Nada. The Fairyland plant is unlike either parent. The foliage is very narrow, dark green and superficially resembles a California species. It makes a very compact growth and is quite low-growing. It flowers in April on upright, short-branched stems with many flowers nearly the size of watti. The color is white heavily and attractively spotted deep violet. It is a good pot plant.

Nada has very large foliage, larger than either parent, bright





Nada grows well outdoors in mild climates and is an excellent house or greenhouse plant in other sections.

green, which grows fan-shaped on 12-inch stems. Well grown plants will stand about three feet high. The flowers are produced earlier than Fairyland's and are a shade smaller than those of japonica, but much more numerous. I have had as many as 200 flowers on one stem over a three-month period. I think Nada has more flowers per stem and a longer blooming season than any other iris. The flowers are well ruffled, white with a slight lavender sheen with yellow crest and light lavender spotting in the haft. As the flower stem is strong and wiry, it is held up well and does not flop over. When cut, nearly every bud develops. It makes an excellent house or greenhouse plant and is very attractive when planted in a hanging basket.



Nada is not sterile and will produce seeds either selfed or crossed back to either parent. However it is a very shy seeder and that is the reason why I have been unable to raise many more varieties from succeeding generation crosses. The only other one on the market now is a selfed seedling of Nada which is named Darjeeling. This is an improvement over Nada in size of flower and ruffling. I have been trying to obtain a lavender colored plant with the watti habit, but the lavender color seems to be recessive. Of the many seedlings I raised I have never been able to select a colored one. All are white or very light colored. The only other plant I selected but did not name is a plant identical with watti in habit and flower, but taller growing and with the flower stems profusely branched. There would be no use in introducing this plant because it is too much like the species, so I grow it for my own pleasure.

This group of plants is easy to grow in all but the coldest sections. I don't know how much cold they will take but I am inclined to believe that they will survive near zero weather. However, if grown in pots and brought under protection in the winter anyone can grow them. We grow tender plants like orchids by providing right conditions, so why not take a little more trouble and grow these lovely varieties and species? It has always been strange to me that people will go to a lot of trouble to provide winter conditions for such things as fuchsias, geraniums and coleus but when it comes to tender varieties of iris they just say they can't, and quit.

*Supplementing Mr. Giridlian's article, the BULLETIN is glad to offer the following experience reports from members who have tried Iris japonica and its hybrids:*

TRAIL, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA—My experience with japonica is limited. Last spring I bought a plant which grew to fill a 10-inch pot. All winter it has been next to a basement window in a temperature of about 50 degrees F. and it is now (Feb. 14) starting into vigorous growth. Confusa is growing under similar conditions.

From October till the first of March a mountain cuts me off from the sun, so I have not taken indoor gardening very seriously. I was amazed to find *I. bakeriana*, planted in mid-November, in spite of low temperature (35-40 degrees) attempts to retard it, come into full bloom when moved to a basement window, and it has been in flower for ten days. Perhaps all of the *reticulata* section will bloom under such conditions. Of course I will give the plants sun as soon as possible to mature the bulbs.

I will try japonica outdoors next year, to see what happens. The winter here seldom goes below zero and there is normally a covering of two or three feet of snow. I have no trouble at all with San Gabriel, Easter Morn, regelias and their hybrids, or any species of the California section.—*Kenneth M. McKee.*

BORING, ORE.—I have grown *Iris japonica* for 15 years successfully under widely different climatic conditions.

My garden was formerly located in eastern Oregon where hot dry summers and zero temperatures were the usual thing. Planted under oak trees in loam soil enriched and acidified by rotted oak leaves, my original japonica rapidly increased into the most luxuriant planting I have ever seen. Only on one occasion when the temperature dipped to 15 degrees below zero without benefit of snow was most of the mature evergreen growth destroyed. However, the underground stolons emerged 100% in early spring and by midsummer all evidence of winter injury had vanished. I am certain if the exposed fans had been covered with peatmoss or oak leaves most of the loss could have been prevented. Without doubt the ideal conditions afforded this large colony were largely responsible for the survival of the plants following such extreme weather.

Our present garden enjoys the damp mild climate of western Oregon and of course *I. japonica* is of unquestionable hardiness under these conditions. We are experiencing one of the coldest winters on record and the years of 1948-'49 will be long remembered by Oregonians. Our thermometer has registered 5 to 10 degrees several mornings this month (January) but a close inspection of our japonica shows no indication of damage yet.

Provided with fertile woodland soil and shade and moisture during hot dry weather, *I. japonica* will thrive and endure much lower temperatures than is generally believed. The same treatment applies to *I. watti*, also the hybrid varieties Nada and Darjeeling. Too many gardeners lose sight of the vital factors which determine in a large measure any plant's ability to withstand adverse weather conditions. Many exotic species do not adapt themselves readily to a new location and consequently are not established or are in a weakened condition when winter approaches. Obviously such plants will succumb to the rigors of inclement weather much sooner than well established vigorous specimens.—*Walter Marx.*

BERKELEY, CALIF.—I have had *Iris japonica* and *I. watti* in my garden for years. They thrive here under the most casual care and flower freely every March or April if given plenty of shade. Ours get only morning sun and not a great deal of that. The most effective large planting of *I. japonica* I have seen is in the Dibblee garden at Ross, Marin County, just north of the Golden Gate. The emphasis in that garden is on azaleas grown in the half shade of trees on a hillside, and some of the paths are planted to *I. japonica*, which thrives under the same conditions and flowers with great freedom at the same time. It is too bad that this iris is so little known even in California, where there are many half shady gardens. Our visitors always admire it but it is so little grown commercially that they have to send to Giridlian or Milliken or Tom Craig in Southern California for it.—*Sydney B. Mitchell.*



VENTURA, CALIF. (Jan. 30, 1919)—This has been the coldest winter we have had since 1913 according to most people. That was before my time but at any rate we hope it doesn't happen again very soon. We had three inches of snow on the ground in the lemon orchard which is not at all good. My mother has lived here for 75 years and it is the first time she has seen snow on the ground.

Through all this winter the Evansias came through in grand style. There is some sign of frost-bite on wattii in protected locations but where it could get any circulation there seems to be no apparent damage. Our lowest recorded temperature was 27 degrees.

I don't know what I can tell you about Evansias that Jimmie Giridlian can't but what information I might have would give the procedure in coastal areas.

Wattii, Nada, Fairyland, Darjeeling and japonica have all been grown here in Ventura in several different locations. They all are partial to fairly deep shade and have done very well for me under an avocado tree where they have had shade all day with filtered light about one-half of the time. They have been given a moderate amount of water and have been planted in heavy loam with a mulch of avocado leaves and no cultivation. It is under these conditions that they seem to do best. There are certain variables to consider. I would say that japonica does better with a little more sun and Fairyland and japonica must be given good drainage and a little more regular watering because of affinity for dry rot.

These same plants have been grown under a rose arbor where the light is much stronger and the result has not been nearly as satisfactory. All have died out with the exception of Nada and wattii which seem to do fairly well there.

Tectorum and milesi have done better under the rose arbor than in complete shade. However, neither is too hardy here and they need to be replaced about every five years.

Oliver Twist, a tectorum seedling, seems to do better than its parent and has been quite hardy with me. It is very similar to tectorum and is a much ranker grower.

Cristata does fairly well and it, too, likes the shady condition, good drainage, mulch and an acid soil. Nada and wattii don't seem to worry too much about the soil.

We have never been able to bloom lacustris and gracilipes. They apparently like a moist climate and more acid conditions that we have been able to give them.—*Marion R. Walker.*

CLEVELAND, OHIO—Several friends of mine grow a number of the Iridaceae and I have played around with a number of them during the winter months—Marica, Morea and Dietes, as well as the tender Evansias. However, Iris Nada seems to be the most satisfactory and if one has the knack for house plants it should be fairly easy to handle.

This iris will flourish in both a greenhouse and a room rather cool in

temperature. If set outdoors for the summer, it will increase rapidly if planted in rich moist soil. Mrs. Charles Wyckoff grows *I. Nada* beautifully in a greenhouse, setting the plant out in the garden for the summer. When in bloom in March the plant is literally a mass of the most delicate fairy-like bloom imaginable. I have followed the same procedure with my plant in a rather cool room getting midday and afternoon sun during the winter, setting it out in the garden for the summer (in full sun, as it happened) in rich soil, and potting it up again in the fall. It will stand a light frost. It also likes to be slightly pot-bound. But at no time must it be allowed to become dry nor the roots exposed to the sun. Scale seems to be the chief enemy but spraying with DDT is the answer to that problem.

If one observes the root system, it is apparent that this class of iris has a tendency to push upward out of the soil as it grows. This is true of other crested species, *I. tectorum* and *I. cristata* as well. Perhaps this is why gardeners lose their plants—because the roots dry out. To overcome this habit, especially out-of-doors, it is necessary to add rich loam to the plants during the growing season. I always do this to my three hardy irises, *tectorum*, *gracilipes* and *cristata*, especially before winter and have been rewarded with good increase and satisfactory bloom.

To the comprehensive article in the October BULLETIN about *I. tectorum*, may I add that if it will grow satisfactorily in Cleveland, where the temperature often drops 25 degrees in an hour and a half, it can hardly be classified as tender. My plants, both white and lavender, have grown in one position for over five years, against a brick wall in morning sun in clay soil. I have taken numerous increases from them and as Mrs. Howe has done, I break them off (an indication, surely, that they push upward) without disturbing the main clumps. Here they bloom with the tall bearded iris in late May or early June. The handsome swirling foliage must not be slighted for it is very decorative and unlike the two other hardy crested irises, it does not die back and disappear over the winter. The ends will brown from frostbite, but with slight protection—perhaps a few leaves—it will grow and freshen up in the spring. *I. tectorum* is undoubtedly very decorative when nestled against a wall or framed by native rocks and seems to thrive in such positions, so why not try to give it one of these situations? Learning where our garden plants prosper is half the battle of growing them. My garden, I feel, would not be complete without the crested irises, especially *I. tectorum*.—Mrs. Eugene R. Miles.

GRENADA, MISS.—In the spring of 1948 I received two plants of *Iris japonica*—one from Milliken and one from Carl Starker. Both were in rather sad condition when I received them and in spite of careful planting neither survived. In the fall of 1948 I re-ordered from Mr. Milliken and he very kindly sent me gratis some plants which were in much better condition. As there was more than one plant, I put half in a pot and half in the open ground.

Now when I say open ground I do not mean without protection. Our little country home is built with a court which forms a bed having protection from the north and west and also more or less from the south. It has early morning sun and is shaded from about 10 or 11 for the rest of the day. The soil is



good rich leaf mold liberally mixed with peatmoss—possibly on the acid side. I've never run a test on that bed. The plants were very beautiful until the 6-inch snow we had Jan. 30, which stayed on the ground for a week. Up until that time geraniums in the same bed were still green, so you see they were pretty well protected. The other plant—the one in the pot—was in the extreme corner of the bed against the brick foundation of the house. Both plants show that **they have come in contact with the cold** but are still in good condition. What effect their experience will have upon the flowers this year remains to be seen.

At the same time I planted these iris I also planted one *I. Nada* in a large pot. About the middle of November I brought the pot into the house, which was unheated until "the week" of snow and ice. We kept the gas burning that entire week, for while we do not live there, we did it to protect our water pipes. The gas wasn't on in the room in which I had the flowers, but the whole house was comfortably warm. That plant looks wonderful and I believe it will bloom this spring.

I still think spring planting would be preferable to fall planting even though my remarks would seem to indicate otherwise.—*Mrs. T. B. Revell, Jr.*

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Readers may recall my brief note on *Iris Darjeeling* in the April, 1948, *BULLETIN*. The same potted plant is flowering again this year in an unheated "pit" greenhouse (March 1). *Japonica* bloomed in January and *Uwodu* has buds showing now. Of the three, *Darjeeling* makes the best pot plant. Some might prefer the flowers of *japonica*, for their richer lavender coloring, but the rhizomes of this species do not attach themselves to the soil very firmly and it is not unusual for the top-heavy fans of leaves to "flop" over. The prolific *Uwodu* has filled and overflowed its pot, but bearing out Mr. Giridlian's observation, it hasn't bloomed much.

I am surprised at the opinions expressed as to how much cold these irises will stand. Mine seem definitely affected by the temperatures in the high twenties, but with enough stock for experiments now, I'll try a few outdoors next winter.

The chief charm of these little *Evansias* lies in their delicate coloring and exquisitely ruffled and fringed flower parts which combine to create an appealing impression of fragile beauty. The "fragile" label, unfortunately, is deserved, for individual blossoms last no more than two days in a cool greenhouse and less than that in a living room window. New buds, however, continue the bloom show to a quite satisfactory length.—*Sam Caldwell.*

EDITOR'S NOTE—The foregoing material on *Iris japonica* was assembled by Prof. Sydney B. Mitchell, chairman of the Beardless and Species Committee. For a forthcoming feature on Pacific Coast native irises, Prof. Mitchell requests experience reports from growers of these species in California and other sections — especially in colder climates. Address him at 633 Woodmont Ave., Berkeley 8, Calif.

# ***SOME CAN TAKE IT!***

## **Louisiana Irises Get Cold Test**

CAROLINE DORMON, (LA.)

Many persons think of all Louisiana as a land of palms and oranges. They would have changed their minds had they been with us during this past February! After a very mild winter, the temperature dropped to 8 degrees up here in the hills. (Miss Dormon lives at Saline in the pine hill country of north central Louisiana.—Ed.) Most of the Louisiana irises had put on a very lush growth, and many had buds well up into the stalks. When the ten-inch snow melted off, these latter looked as if they had been scalded.

When plants are frozen like this, the only remedy is to cut them off with a sharp knife. In 1943, when we had two such freezes, I lost some rhizomes because I did not cut them off soon enough.

Those which suffered most from the freeze were in very wet spots, where growth was not retarded even during summer. This would seem to be another argument for regular garden cultivation. Also, in the long run, Louisianas seem to suffer less from both heat and cold when the rhizomes are covered with light soil. One other conclusion seems to be thrusting itself upon me — perhaps our own irises do better in the real North, where they do not put on much growth till spring has arrived!

Several of us have been watching results of late winter freezes, and, for some unexplainable reason, nearly all in the pinkish class are the tenderest. Two notable exceptions will be mentioned farther on. All of those in the *giganticaerulea* group are very tender, perhaps because they simply will put on a tremendous growth during the winter. Most of those in the Abbeville group are tough customers, the yellows suffering a little, the reds and violets not at all. (Foliosa blood? Perhaps — no one actually knows as yet!)

Now for the mysteries! In a 1943 cross between New Orleans (quite tender) and Cajan, I got an impudent, upstanding little brilliant-deep-rose thing . . . and it was not even tipped by the big freeze! Gypsy Red, collected near New Orleans by the late Mary Debaillon, was unhurt. What is more, its child (other parent not known), a cream-and-rose affair, was untouched.





Caldwell photo

Mrs. Lillian Trichel's Caddo has large flowers, bronze with a wine overcast, and very bright yellow signal patches. Caroline Dormon considers it one of the hardier Louisiana varieties.

Of the guest iris in my boggy garden, some of which stood up perfectly to the cold were Chowning's Accolade, Trichel's Caddo, MacMillan's Bayou Sunset, Mathew's Delta Treasure, and Lockett's



Luck. Nelson's Cherry Bounce, S. Smith's Sunny, and Arceneaux' yellows were nipped only slightly.

Each reader is privileged to draw his own conclusions from these notes, but it does look as if we may build up a perfectly cold-resistant strain of lovely Louisiana irises.

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## Debaillon Award Authorized for Louisiana Irises

In order to perpetuate the name of the late Mary Swords Debaillon, whose efforts as a collector and hybridizer of native Louisiana irises were instrumental in bringing about their conservation as garden flowers for posterity, the American Iris Society and the Society for Louisiana Irises now jointly sponsor an annual award for the best Louisiana iris of the year, to be known as the Mary Swords Debaillon Award. It is in the form of an appropriately engrossed certificate and upon the basis of votes from AIS accredited judges will be awarded each year to the hybridizer or collector (if the clone was found in nature) of the winning variety.

Conceived originally by members of the Society for Louisiana Irises, which is now affiliated with the AIS, the Debaillon trophy was confirmed by our Board of Directors at the January meeting as part of the AIS official system of awards. It is hoped that this recognition of the worth of the Louisiana natives will stimulate their further development.

Accredited judges were furnished forms for voting on this new award for the first time in 1949.

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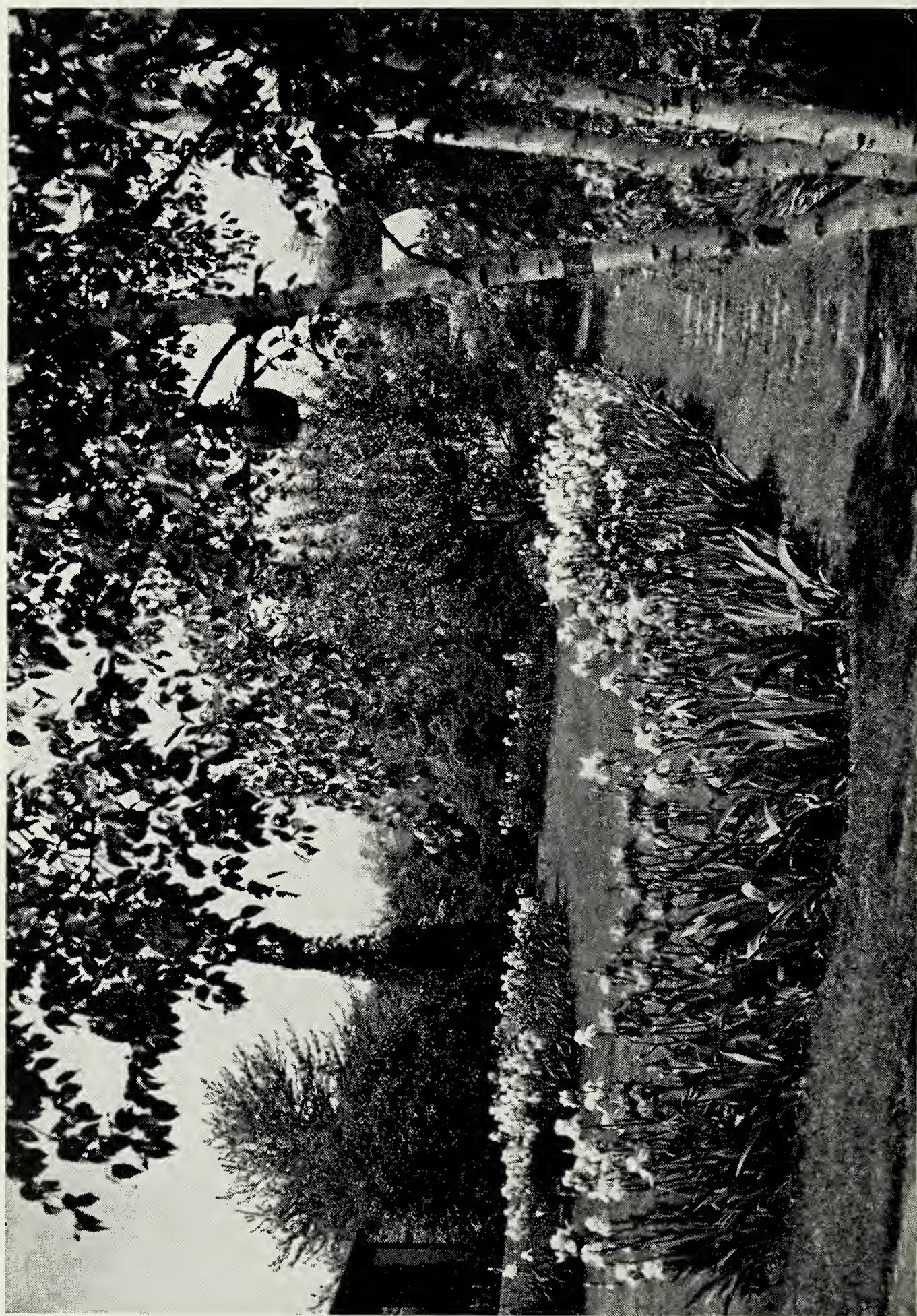
### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

The thought has occurred to me several times that most members of the Society have families who are every bit as interested in irises as the one actually listed as a member. As there would be no object in each member of the family paying a full membership fee, couldn't some provision be

worked out for enrolling them at a nominal fee — say 25c or 50c? The BULLETIN would be mailed only to the one full paid member, but the others would receive Membership Cards and be placed on the membership list. They would take pride in being members and supporters of the Society.

—Kenneth S. Moore, Sheridan, Wyo.







# Make Your Garden Pictures . . .

## LOOK SHARP!

SAM CALDWELL, (TENN.)

As custodian of the AIS color slides collections I see a great many Kodachromes of irises and iris gardens. In fact, within the past two years I have examined more than 1000 slides. Even though some culling presumably was done by the makers before these were sent in, I have had a very hard time finding 200 really top grade slides for our two rental collections now circulating.

The unhappy truth is that most of the slides made by our garden photographers aren't very sharp. They're not really bad. Some of them are sharp in places — not always the right places. In others the camera was just moved a little when the picture was snapped; the image is only slightly blurred.

The soft or fuzzy focus effect may be acceptable — and often charitable — in certain types of portraiture, but it is not good in garden photography. Your iris 'fancier wants to see *exactly what the flower looks like*. Show it to him in crisp, sharp outline and detail and he will applaud.

I am going to give three specific suggestions on "how to sharpen a picture." They all involve a little time and trouble and you won't be able to follow them all of the time, but if you're serious about making good pictures, they will help.

1. *Use a tripod.* No matter what you think, you can't consistently hold a camera still enough for critically sharp color pictures. You can hold it almost steady . . . and your pictures will be almost sharp. A sturdy tripod with a head that tilts and turns but locks firmly in position will be one of your very best investments. Light, jittery tripods are of little value. And for your camera, have a fairly long, flexible cable release. The whole idea here is that you

### SUPERB PHOTOGRAPHY IN A BEAUTIFUL GARDEN

The well known horticultural photographers, Gottscho-Schleisner, employed a device known as "framing" in making this picture of iris plantings at Kenneth Smith's Dongan Hills home on Staten Island. The birch tree frame in the foreground contributes an atmosphere of spaciousness and depth to the view. Observe, however, that the flowers, because of their prominent placement, sharp outlines and light, conspicuous tones, rightfully dominate the picture.



cannot make a sharp picture unless at the time of exposure your camera is **ABSOLUTELY STILL**.

2. *Focus carefully.* Cameras with which color slides are made are focused in different ways. Some of the more expensive ones have a range finder coupled with the lens so that when you adjust this finder properly on the principal object in the picture, the camera is automatically focused. There will be no trouble if you make a careful, precise adjustment of the range finder.

Other cameras have a focusing scale — usually marked in feet — and you must set it correctly on the distance from camera to subject. Some people can estimate distances of ten feet and more closely enough to set the scale properly. I find it helpful to pace off the camera-to-subject interval; my steps average about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet, so it's easy to figure out how far I've walked.

With flower close-ups, however — and many iris pictures are in this category —, distances must be measured very accurately. Small, six-foot tape measures are usually available at the variety stores, and one of them is a useful item to keep in the camera kit. I am assuming — and it's probably a brazen assumption — that everybody knows you can't take close-ups with a camera that doesn't focus on objects closer than 8 feet away. Often, however, special portrait attachments may be secured for such cameras, which will permit you to work up close.

Finally there are cameras that you focus manually while looking at the picture image on a glass screen. I consider this the very best type of camera for flower photography, but sad experience has taught me that the naked eye — even good ones like mine, which the army called 20-20 — can't always tell when the tiny postage-stamp-sized image is critically sharp. So I carry a pocket magnifying glass to check it with; indeed, some of the cameras have built-in magnifiers over the focusing screen.

3. *Stop down your lens before shooting.* This is one of the oldest and most useful techniques in photographic practice, and yet it seems not to be known to many present-day photographers. Perhaps that is because the advertising literature and the camera salesmen constantly stress the “fast” lenses and high speed shutters of modern cameras. The beginner thinks that because he *can* open up the lens on his expensive new camera to  $f/1.9$  and shoot at  $1/500$  second, it is a good thing to do. Far from it! Save those high speeds

*Announcing the Publication of*  
**The Rainbow Iris Manual**

**PART I—CULTURE AND CHARACTERISTICS**

A comprehensive summary of the soil, water, temperature and other **cultural requirements of the following 20 distinct types of Iris**, together with a helpful discussion of their relationships, origin, characteristics, and usefulness in the garden picture.

**ARIL IRIS and THEIR HYBRIDS:** Oncocyclus, Regelias, Oncogelias, Onco-Bearded Hybrids and Regelia-Bearded Hybrids.

**BEARDED IRIS:** Tall Bearded, Dwarfs, Intermediates, Border and Table Iris and Autumn Bloomers.

**BEARDLESS IRIS:** Siberians, Spurias, Stylosas, California Natives, Louisiana Natives, and Japanese Iris.

**IRIS ODDITIES:** Crested Iris, Bulbous Iris, and Tuberous Iris.

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A full explanation of all steps in Iris hybridizing, from planning the crosses, collecting and applying the pollen, to sowing the seed, selecting and naming the hybrids. Also includes such vital topics as: Varieties Recommended as Parents in Breeding for Specific Objectives; How to Synchronize Blooming Periods; Chromosome Numbers and Their Significance; Designating Hybrids Resulting from Intercrossing Aril Iris and Bearded Iris; Ways to Increase Your Sets; and The Limits of Iris Hybridization.



This new Iris Manual is a supplement to our 1949 Iris Catalog "**RAINBOW OFFERINGS**," listing hundreds of varieties of the above types of Iris. The catalog tells how you can obtain this new Iris Manual free with your first order.

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**RAINBOW HYBRIDIZING GARDENS**

LLOYD AUSTIN

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PLACERVILLE, CALIFORNIA





## STOP DOWN FOR SHARPNESS!

(Caldwell photos)

With camera exactly 3 feet from the first flowers the focusing scale was set carefully for that distance. Picture at left was then made with 1/500 second exposure at  $f/1.9$ . Only the front flowers are sharp, since the lens has little depth of field at such a large stop.

Exposure meter indicated that 1/10 second at  $f/14$  would be equivalent to the previous exposure, so lens was stopped down almost to  $f/16$  (there being no  $f/14$  marker) and the picture on right made at 1/10. Note sharp all-over detail.

The iris is Cantab, a dainty little light blue variety of *Iris reticulata*, growing in a spring rock garden.

for racing automobiles, stunting airplanes and other fast-action subjects.

(I am trying to avoid technical talk. Experienced camera users understand what "stopping down" means. "Stops," of course, are the diaphragm settings on your camera lens. "Wide open" indicates the largest stop; it may be  $f/1.9$ ,  $f/2$ ,  $f/3.5$  or some other figure, depending upon how fast a lens you have. To stop down you make the diaphragm smaller by moving the indicator across the scale to  $f/8$ ,  $f/16$  or one of the other medium or small stops.)

Here is what happens when you take a picture with the lens



# *Fairmount Gardens*

## INTRODUCTIONS for 1949

### *Bearded Iris*

AUCOCISCO (Tobie) Blue and White amoena. H.C.—'47	\$15.00
BAY STATE (Corey) Large light blue, tall. H.C.—'46	\$20.00
BEAU GAY (Nesmith) Light salmon orange self	\$10.00
BLIZZARD (Knowlton) Ruffled pure white, early. H.C.—'46	\$12.00
CORPORAL MARY (Graves) Large lemon cream. H.C.—'48	\$15.00
FAR HILLS (Wills) Large deep orchid pink	\$10.00
INDIAN RED (H. F. Hall) Ruffled Pompeian red and copper	\$15.00
JUNIOR MISS (Graves) Flaring ruffled cream, border iris	\$ 5.00
ON GUARD (Carpenter) Tall buff yellow. H.C.—'48	\$15.00
PLUM TART (Connell) Rich plum with white center	\$ 7.50
POLONADE (Grant) Yellow and white reverse bicolor. H.C.—'48	\$20.00
SEAFARER (Buttrick) Best medium blue. H.C.—'48	\$20.00
STAR SHINE (Wills) Blended cream, white and blue. H.C.—'48	\$15.00
SUMMERTIME (Caldwell) Rich deep yellow, tall. H.C.—'46	\$15.00
WHITE PARCHMENT (H. F. Hall) Large late white, heavy substance	\$15.00

The Douglas Introductions are listed in the other Fairmount Gardens advertisement.

The Nesmith Hemerocallis Introductions will be listed in 1949 catalogue.

CATALOGUE ON REQUEST

MRS. THOMAS NESMITH

FAIRMOUNT GARDENS, LOWELL, MASS.



wide open. Let us say that you are making a close-up of a single iris blossom. You set up the camera carefully; you measure from lens to center of flower and find that it is exactly 3 feet, so you set the focusing scale at 3 feet. Then you make the exposure with the lens at its largest stop. When your slide comes back from the processing station you slip it into the projector and hopefully throw it on the screen. Ah . . . pretty good, isn't it? Look at that beard . . . talk about sharpness — you can count every "whisker." Yes, but take a look at the flaring fall sticking out toward you. It's just a fuzzy blob; you can't tell anything about the texture or whether the color is smooth or perhaps finely veined. The same is true of falls on the back of the flower; they're hopelessly out of focus.

Hundreds of slides just like that will be made this season. I'll see dozens of them and will be grieved at the waste of perfectly good color film. The cure for the fuzziness is so simple — just **STOP DOWN THE LENS!**

Stopping down has a truly magical effect, as you can see in the accompanying illustrations. Shoot wide open and only the objects right at the point on which your focus is set will be perfectly sharp. But stop down and objects nearer the camera and those farther away become sharp. You have a zone or "field" of space in which everything is acceptably sharp, and the more you stop down, within reason, the deeper this field becomes.

Let's look at some actual figures from the "depth of field" table published by the manufacturer of a popular miniature camera lens. When it is focused on a point 3 feet away and used at the  $f/1.9$  stop, only those objects from  $35 \frac{1}{8}$  to 37 inches from the camera are in sharp focus. In other words, if your flower doesn't fit into that narrow zone, less than 2 inches deep, part of it will be out of focus. But stop the lens down to  $f/5.6$  and everything from 33 inches to 39 inches is sharp; run it on down to  $f/11$  and you'll have a full foot of sharp "field" — from 31 inches to 43 inches — enough to cover an entire three-blossom branched iris stalk.

At greater distances the field of sharpness becomes very much deeper. When this lens is focused on 15 feet, for instance, and set at  $f/11$  it gives you almost universal focus, for everything from 8 feet to infinity will be sharp in the picture.

Why then, you may ask — if stopping down the lens is so helpful — doesn't everybody stop down all of the time? There are compli-

cations. Every time you move from one stop down to the next smaller one you must double the exposure, and under outdoor conditions it is usually not possible to make exposures of more than 1/10 or perhaps 1/5 second. Any standard exposure meter will show you the exposures required at f/8, f/11 and f/16, which are among the most useful stops for garden photography. Wind is the great obstacle. An exposure of 1/10 second is longer than you think; it can be made only in a dead calm and of course the camera must be on a tripod.

Composition, backgrounds, proper exposure and other problems will face you when you take the camera into the garden. But if you have the patience to set the focus carefully, stop down and make the exposure while the subject is quite still, your pictures will have at least one important quality — the beautifully sharp, crisp definition that is a prime requisite of good flower photography.

## HILL—SON

LAFONTAINE, KANSAS

### ★ *In Iris—*

A few charming new Dwarfs.  
The most persistent Re-bloomers.  
The best and most vigorous Tall Bearded.

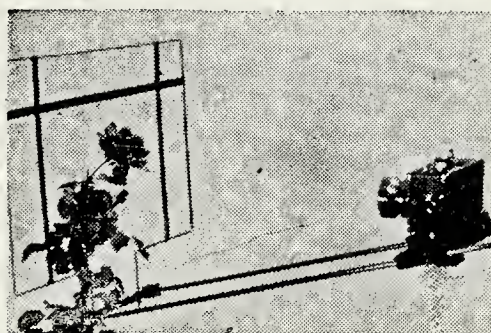
Some new Sibericas and Spurias.

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SPECIAL COLLECTIONS IN  
EACH CLASS AT MODEST  
PRICES.

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Peonies—Brilliant new  
hybrids.  
Hemerocallis—Our own new  
seedlings.

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For Accurate Close-up Focus and  
Framing Without Measuring

Works with all 35mm and Bantam cameras when taking close-ups with a 2+ or 3+ Portra lens. Eliminates the waste of having pictures with the top, bottom or sides cut off. See Mr. Ray K. Rickman's article, March 1948 issue of News Bulletin A.I.S. Region 18.

The all metal CAL-CAM Focus Guide is light weight, adjustable and very simple to use. PRICE \$7.95 U. S. postage inc. if cash with order, C.O.D. charges added. Orders from Calif., add 2½ % sales tax.

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# Garden Visits--Regional Meetings

In spite of unusual weather practically all over the country during the past winter, reports received at the BULLETIN office indicate that the optimists are expecting good bloom in most localities. There will be meetings, shows and organized garden treks in a number of our regions. In others the activities will be less formal but hundreds of members will enjoy dropping in to see what their fellow iris enthusiasts are growing.

OPEN GARDENS—A great many of our members welcome visitors to see their irises during the flowering season. In the membership list carried in the April, 1948, BULLETIN approximately 500 open gardens were indicated. We regret our inability to repeat that feature this year; however, since gardeners as a rule are people who “stay put,” the 1948 list is no doubt still quite accurate and should serve as a guide for those who plan iris visits.

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES—We are giving below notes on activities of which we were advised before the BULLETIN went to press. Bear in mind that all dates are tentative. Members who wish to attend regional gatherings should check with their Regional Vice-President (directory on inside back cover) for final plans and dates. In most cases this will not be necessary as the RVP's usually mail to their members announcements of such meetings or treks as are planned.

REGION 1—A schedule of garden visits as follows: June 3, 10:00 A. M. — Dr. and Mrs. Franklin P. Lowry, 62 Walnut Park, Newton, Mass.; afternoon — Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Barker, 458 California St., Newtonville, Mass. June 2, 10:00 A. M. — Mr. and Mrs. Harold W. Knowlton, 32 Hancock St., Auburndale, Mass.; afternoon — Dr. and Mrs. Irving W. Fraim, 99 Claremont St., Waltham, Mass. June 5, 10:00 A. M. — Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Nesmith, 166 Fairmont St., Lowell, Mass.; afternoon — Mr. and Mrs. Stedman Buttrick, Liberty St., Concord, Mass. June 7, 9:30 A. M. — Mr. and Mrs. Percy I. Merry, 109 Brookside Rd., Needham, Mass.; 11:00 A. M. — Mr. W. A. Wheeler, 832 Concord St., Framington, Mass.; 12:30 P. M. — Mr. and Mrs. William J. McKee, 45 Kenwood Ave., Worcester, Mass. June 9, 10:00 A. M. — Mr. and Mrs. Preston E. Corey, 707 Pearl St., Reading, Mass.





A partial view of our growing field  
INTRODUCING

**SPRING ROMANCE (E. Miess 1948) (Melitza X Narain)**

It is difficult to describe this "breath-taking" iris by a word description. Picture—a flower with crisp, horizontal falls, unusually wide and ruffled, standards wide, domed and ruffled. A waxy cream-white with a frosty overlay and a heavy infusion of aureolin gold at the haft, with the added charm of an extra heavy deep orange beard. This infusion of gold at the heart of the flower casts its golden glow throughout the entire bloom, giving it great carrying value in your garden. It also has quality and refinement on close inspection, plus a delightful fragrance. Spring Romance does not fade. The huge 7-inch blooms of extra heavy substance and long lasting qualities with nine or more buds, are poised gracefully on tall, well branched stalks, vigorous and floriferous.

Spring Romance, known as seedling 551A, won the Gold Cup at the 1948 Hollywood Iris Show.

Early mid-season, 42"—\$25.00

IRIS  
SPURIA  
REGELIA  
SIBERIAN  
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ONCOCYCLUS  
HEMEROCALLIS

*Our beautiful  
Catalog in color*  
**FREE**  
*on request*

**SYLLMAR GARDENS**

ELMA MIESS

12932 Borden Avenue

San Fernando, California



REGION 2—Visit to garden of Mr. John Dolman, Jr., 305 Vassar Ave., Swarthmore, Penna., on May 21.

REGION 6—A two-day regional meeting: May 28 — Ft. Wayne, Ind.; Hotel Van Orman, headquarters; visits to gardens in and near Ft. Wayne, including that of Mrs. Clarence D. Jonas; seedling show and banquet at Hotel Van Orman. May 29—Visits to Longfield Iris Farm and garden of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cook, Bluffton, Ind. Prospective visitors write direct to the Chairman, Mrs. Clarence D. Jonas, Kyle Rd., Ft. Wayne 8, Ind.

REGION 7—A two-day regional meeting in Memphis, Tenn.: April 30—Beginning at 9:00 A.M., visits to gardens of Mrs. Morgan Ketchum, 178 S. McLean Blvd.; Dr. T. P. Nash, 182 S. Idlewild; Mrs. A. F. Allen, 1361 Monroe. Lunch, 12:00 to 1:30, Parkview Hotel. Afternoon garden visits to Mr. and Mrs. John E. Pierce, 2583 Jackson Ave.; LaBundy's Iris Gardens, 2577 Oxford St.; Mrs. C. R. Clark, 372 Grandview (forum and barbecue). May 1 — Visits beginning at 9:00 A. M. to gardens of Mrs. Leo Reynolds, Chambliss Ave., Whitehaven (coffee); Mrs. E. R. Fox, 1663 Glenview; Mr. Robert Carney, 3555 Midland Ave.

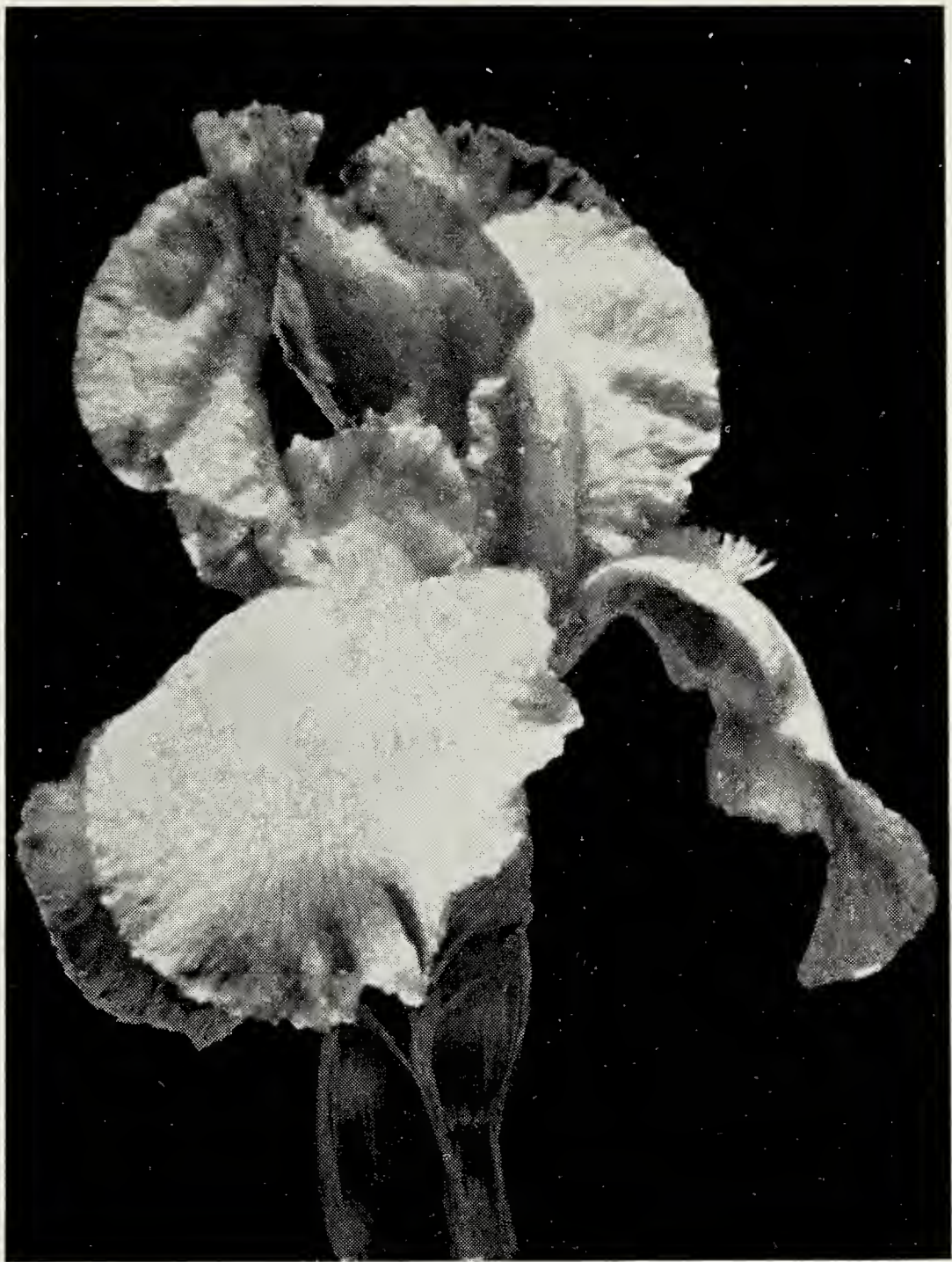
REGION 9 — A regional meeting in Marion, Ill., on May 7. Program will include tour of gardens located in Marion, Benton, West Frankfort, Carbondale and possibly Harrisburg, Murphysboro and Mt. Vernon, Ill. For information write Mrs. Ray Schweinfurth, 1817 Richview Rd., Mt. Vernon, Ill.

REGION 11—Probably an informal regional meeting in connection with local garden tours in Twin Falls, Idaho, vicinity between June 1 and 10. Informal garden visits in eastern Idaho—Preston vicinity—and in western points—Boise, Nampa, Caldwell, Payette, Emmett; also Nyssa, Ore.—during period May 15-30; in southern Idaho—Declo, Kimberly, Twin Falls, Buhl—and in Coeur d'Alene area to the north during June 1-15. Flower (including iris) shows: Caldwell—May 28, Methodist Church; Emmett—June 5; Declo—June 3 or 10; Twin Falls—June 10 or 15.

REGION 14 — A visit to the Sacramento, Calif., garden of Mr. and Mrs. George G. Pollock on May 9; buffet luncheon meeting, 12:00-2:00 P. M.; also visit to Rainbow Hybridizing Gardens, Placerville, Calif.

REGION 15 — An iris show at Plummer Park, Hollywood, Calif., on April 23-24. Many Southern California gardens, including those of Mr. Thomas Craig, Los Angeles; Mr. Eric Nies, Hollywood; Mr. Clarence White, Redlands, and others will welcome visitors during the season.

REGION 16 — An organized visit about June 15 to Surreyhurst Farm, home of Mr. William Miles, Ingersoll, Ontario, Canada. Also during the season informal visits to gardens of the following members (all in Ontario): Mr. L. W. Cousins, 472 Tecumseh Ave., London; Mr. Everett O. Hall, 265 Regent St., London; Mr. William G. Fleming, 154 Sydenham St., London; Rev. W. T. Corcoran, 50 Well St., Stratford; Mr. W. J. Moffat, 170 Delaware Ave., Hamilton; Mrs. Orville M. Walsh, 180 Concessions St., Hamilton; Dr. A. H. Rolph, "The Elms," Scarlett Rd., Weston; Mr. R. D. Little, Richmond Hill; Mr. H. E.



Elizabeth of England is Mr. William Miles' new pale blue iris characterized by excellent form. Our Canadian members will be looking for it on the mid-June trek to Mr. Miles' Surreyhurst Farm at Ingersoll, Ontario.

Seale, 38 Bellwood Ave., Ottawa; Miss M. S. Castle, Rowancroft Gardens, Meadowvale. Toronto gardens (peak bloom usually June 10-12) include those of Mrs. S. T. Bartlett, 321 Melrose Ave.; Mrs. C. B. Broddy, 185 St. Germaine Ave.; Mrs. Harry Bickle, 42 Glen Elm Ave.; Mrs. Lawrence Loch, 120 Ridley Blvd.; Mr. A. J. Webster, 365 Lauder Ave.; Dr. E. Horne Craigie, 124 Blythwood Ave.; Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Williamson, 574 Lauder Ave.

REGION 17 — A regional meeting in Wichita Falls, Texas, on April 28; noon banquet and visit to garden of President and Mrs. Guy Rogers. Iris shows are



also scheduled in Temple and Fort Worth, Texas, and Oklahoma City and Enid, Okla., also tentatively scheduled in Austin, Texas, and Bartlesville, Okla.

REGION 18 — Annual Spring Meeting, Wichita, Kans.: May 7 — Iris show at Wichita Art Museum, 2:00-10:00 P. M. (also 12:05-6:00 P. M., May 8); dinner meeting, 6:00 P. M., Wolf Cafeteria. May 8 — Garden tour, busses leaving Art Museum at 7:00 A. M. Basket lunch, Linwood Park, 11:30 A. M. Afternoon visit to notable garden of John Ohl.

REGION 20 — Treks to Lincoln's Gardens, Pueblo; Long's Gardens, Boulder, and Dr. Loomis' garden, Colorado Springs, Colo., during season approximately May 15 - June 10. Visitors returning east from the Portland meeting of the AIS are especially invited to stop in Denver, as the above named gardens and a dozen others in the area will be open.

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## REGISTRATION FEE ADOPTED

Perhaps the outstanding service that the American Iris Society has given the gardening world has been the maintenance of an office for registering names of iris varieties. During the years of its operation more than 25,000 iris names have been recorded and published. It is obvious that there would have been many duplications and actual chaos in the field of iris nomenclature had there been no such agency for orderly registration.

The Society's Registrar has always served faithfully without pay. Postage, clerical and printing costs, however, amount to a substantial sum each year, and in order to cover a part of this expense the Board of Directors at the January meeting set up a fee of \$1.00 for each iris variety registered henceforth. This action has been under consideration for some time and has the approval of a majority of the breeders who have communicated with Board members on the subject.

Due to difficulties that our foreign members have in making remittances to this country, the Society will continue to accept their registrations without charge, but the fee will be required of all residents of the United States and Canada who register irises.

Breeders, incidentally, should recall that the closing date for registrations each year is July 5. Before that date send the necessary descriptive data and \$1.00 for each variety to be registered to Mr. Charles E. F. Gersdorff, Registrar, 1825 No. Capitol St., Washon, D. C. (Details on naming and registering a new iris are given on page 122 of BULLETIN 110, July, 1948).



*Iris korolkowi violacea*  
(Regelia Species)



DO YOU HAVE our beautifully illustrated catalogue? It is not just another tall bearded Iris catalog. In it you will find many new and rare Iris offered for the first time and some not obtainable elsewhere.

215 BEARDED varieties including our 1949 introduction BLUMOHR, the elegant BLUE Wm. Mohr seedling awarded an H.C. by the A.I.S. last year.

85 different JAPANESE (Kaempferi) iris, including 28 finest varieties of the magnificent HIGO STRAIN.

30 ONCOCYCLUS and REGELIA bred varieties, including our 1949 introduction, FLICKER, a rare oncocyclus, auranitica hybrid.

16 exotic bulb species including many JUNO and RETICULATA varieties.

52 delightful beardless species and varieties including our lovely WESTERN NATIVES.

Also ENGLISH, LOUISIANA, SIBERIAN and SPURIA varieties.

And for summer and fall blooms in your garden a choice selection of other perennials including DAYLILIES, CHRYSANTHEMUMS and LILIES.

Write for your copy today. It's FREE!!

**WALTER MARX GARDENS**  
**BORING, OREGON**



# 1949 Arrangement Contest

A departure from the ordinary is announced in the BULLETIN's 1949 Arrangement Contest. Formerly it has been the custom to select a type of design and with that as a criterion, to let the contestant choose the type of iris to be used in creating the arrangement. This year we are stressing the use of iris — the primary purpose in having the contest in the first place. We are setting up four classes based upon four different types of iris, and contestants are given wide latitude in the selection of the design best suited to the specified material.

Not only is the matter of design left to the individual artist, but other features will be treated the same. After all, we are interested in two things — first, of course, in the use of iris as the dominant feature and second, in the creation of a pleasing flower picture. To create such a picture, the container should suit the material used. If other flowers beside iris are needed, they should most assuredly be used. If accessories will add to the beauty and grace of the general scheme, by all means add them.

Since the arrangements will be judged from photographs, may we reiterate comments of judges of last year's contest, that backgrounds should be as plain and unobtrusive as possible, so that they will not compete with the subject for attention.

We are happy to announce that Esther Grayson (Mrs. F. F. Rockwell) has consented to judge the 1949 contest. She will be assisted by the BULLETIN staff. In line with her suggestion, we are requiring a written color description to accompany each black-and-white photograph. Please read the following rules carefully so that there will be no misunderstanding.

**ELIGIBILITY** — The contest is open to all.

**ENTRIES** — Each entry shall be in the form of a black-and-white photograph of the arrangement, on smooth or glossy paper and at least  $3\frac{1}{4}$  X  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches in size. Only one entry will be allowed in each class by any one contestant.

**DATA REQUIRED** — Each entry must bear the following information: (1) contestant's name and address, (2) contest class number, and (3) a description of material used, including color —

# WAKARUSA FALL BLOOMERS

I now have over a score of these FALL BLOOMERS in a wide range of colors, including red and pink.

I am offering four of this new line which have proven consistent and profuse fall bloomers. These are all from fall blooming seedlings which appeared among Mr. Lapham's TALL BEARDED seedlings, and from RED RAY which has never bloomed for me in the fall but has produced a number of fall bloomers. They have good height and branching, and flowers of good size, form, and substance.

NAPPANEE (Priority X Forerunner). Standards: Orange vinaceous tinged deep vinaceous. Falls: Indian Lake with a slight suffusion of orange.

MISHAWAKA (Red Ray X Autumn Sunset). A deep yellow self, no markings.

MENOMINEE (Red Ray X Autumn Sunset). A blend of old rose, lilac, and gold.

POTAWATOMI (Priority X seedling of Wakarusa and Red Ray). A luminous orange-brown-red blend.

PRICE OF ABOVE—\$7.50 EACH

---

I also offer two very free flowering fall blooming seedlings of Autumn King and Autumn Sunset @ \$2.50 each:

CLEARING SKIES—Standards: Pale Mauve with golden edge.  
Falls: Hortense Violet.

STORMY DAYS—Standards: Pallid Quaker drab tinted gold.  
Falls: Saccardo Violet.

---

SET OF ALL SIX—\$30.00

N. B. Shipment to be made last week in June or first week in July (early planting recommended) unless otherwise requested.

CHARLES E. WISE

BOX 175

WAKARUSA, INDIANA



and variety name, if known — of flowers, foliage, container and accessories, if used. This may be written on a separate sheet of paper which is attached to the picture with gummed or Scotch tape.

## CLASSES AND PRIZES —

### CLASS 1 — AN ARRANGEMENT FEATURING BEARDED IRIS

Rhizomes of fine iris varieties will be awarded as follows: First Prize, SPANISH PEAKS; Second, ROCKET; Third, MARY VERNON; Fourth, SHARKSKIN.

### CLASS 2 — AN ARRANGEMENT FEATURING SIBERIAN OR JAPANESE IRIS

First Prize, ERIC THE RED; Second, TYCOON; Third, COOL SPRING; Fourth, GATINEAU.

### CLASS 3—AN ARRANGEMENT FEATURING AMERICAN NATIVE IRIS

(Louisiana natives, California species, miscellaneous beardless such as virginica, versicolor, missouriensis, setosa, etc., and garden forms and hybrids of these.)

First Prize, CADDO; Second, NEW ORLEANS; Third, KRAEMER YELLOW; Fourth, an ABBEVILLE RED (all Louisiana iris).

### CLASS 4 — AN ARRANGEMENT FEATURING BULBOUS (DUTCH, SPANISH, ETC.), SPURIA OR CRESTED IRIS

First Prize, COLLECTION OF FOUR SPURIA IRIS; Second, COLLECTION OF THREE SPURIAS; Third, COLLECTION OF TWO SPURIAS; Fourth, SPURIA IRIS SUNNY DAY.

TO REPEAT, in all classes, any design may be used. Select one that you deem suitable for the designated type of iris. The choice of containers, other materials and accessories, if used, is left up to the contestant. Let good taste be your guide.

Address all entries to —

Arrangements Contest  
American Iris Society  
444 Chestnut Street  
Nashville 10, Tennessee

CLOSING DATE — Mail entries by July 15, 1949. Winners will be announced in the October BULLETIN.

TOMORROW'S IRIS TODAY

*Fairmount*

P R E S E N T S

the 1949 Introductions of  
GEDDES DOUGLAS, Brentwood, Tenn.

IRIS! HEMEROCALLIS!

EARLY BLOOMING IRIS

- DUTCH BOY, A reliable early blooming white, well branched, 36 inches, and with heavy substance .....\$10.00  
LELA DIXON, A plicata with garden value; sparkling blue on glistening white, well branched, 36 inches.....\$15.00

Midseason to Late Varieties

- COVER GIRL, A bright pink blended with buff and yellow. Good substance. Ruffled flower, excellent branching. 30 inches.....\$10.00  
SARAH GOODLOE, Smooth, rich elegance in a tall stately iris of deep, solid maroon. Complete self. No reticulations.....\$20.00

For the Very Late Garden

- SILVER SUNLIGHT, Standards yellow, falls white. Sparkling color. Flowers of long lasting quality. 36 inches.....\$15.00  
GAYLORD, The long awaited "break" in amoena breeding. Only fifteen rhizomes will be released in 1949. A vigorous iris that increases rapidly. The flowers are very large, the haft smooth, the standards pure white, the falls violet-blue.....\$20.00

HEMEROCALLIS

- BLACK MAGIC, A black-purple hemerocallis that does not fade in the sun. Many flowers on a 40-inch scape. E.M.....\$12.00  
PINK RADIANCE, A light geranium pink with deeper halo. The flowers are large and slightly ruffled. Four feet. M.L.....\$12.00  
ROSE UNIQUE, A deep watermelon red. Several flowers usually open at once. Well branched. M.....\$ 8.00  
ROYAL GUEST, Rose purple with throat a chartreuse-green. The flowers are very large. M.L.....\$12.00  
For shipment from either LOWELL, MASS., or BRENTWOOD, TENN.

Please state your preference.

SEND ORDERS TO

FAIRMOUNT GARDENS  
166 Fairmount Street  
Lowell, Mass.

GEDDES DOUGLAS  
Hill Road  
Brentwood, Tenn.



# Our Members Write . . .

## QUALIFICATIONS FOR A NEW IRIS

Prices for good new introductions are not too high. A new iris should be better than older varieties in a similar colour class; it should have, as far as tall bearded iris are concerned, better branching, sound colour, some weather resistance, and good form. No modern iris should be bunched at the top. I consider good spacing; that is, the ability to show itself off, almost as desirable as perfect branching in an iris. However, the definite trend toward more buds on each stem is important.

The hybridist who produces a better iris which is eagerly sought after is entitled to capitalize on his achievement; any complaint I would make is directed to the hybridist who hurries an iris into commerce before it has been really tested. One season's bloom on a seedling, no matter how lovely an individual flower may be, gives no

guarantee that a great iris is in the making. The iris is primarily a garden flower, and matters of height, floriferousness and substance must receive earnest consideration.

"He that believeth shall not make haste."

—Mrs. Harry Bickle, Toronto, Canada

\* \* \*

## PISTOL PACKING BORER HUNTER

I cleaned out iris borers in the summer of 1947 with a soapy solution of 6 teaspoons of 40 per cent nicotine sulphate (Black Leaf 40) per gallon of solution. Soap was yellow laundry soap dissolved in water until the liquid felt slippery between the fingers. This strength was necessary to kill the borers.

The solution was injected into the borer tunnels with a "pistol oiler"—the kind garage mechanics use to squirt oil on bolts. It costs more than a dime oil can, but I find that as a good

## IRIS WORLD'S LARGEST COLLECTION

Over 2200 Varieties, including choice of the older and most of the newer varieties. Choice importations from Australia, Canada, England, France, Holland and New Zealand available.

### FREE CATALOG—

If we don't have your iris variety we will attempt to secure it for you. IRIS is our BUSINESS.

Also Poppies, Peonies and Perennials

**Geiser's FAIR CHANCE FARM**  
Box 11                      Beloit, Kansas

sprayer improves the willingness to spray, so does this efficient tool improve my willingness to go after the borers. I also use it, of course, to oil the lawn mower and other tools and car gadgets.

In 1948 I divided the iris treated the previous year and found three borers—not enough for further experiments. The plants improved soon after the nicotine sulphate treatment but the infested rhizomes did not produce much bloom or good bloom that season. I have not determined whether the solution had any harmful effects, but it certainly saved a lot of digging in 1947. I am reporting this experience in hope that someone will know of a method of injection into the fan when the borers are small.

—John Solar, Watertown, N. Y.

(See also Dr. Randolph's comprehensive borer control article in this issue, stressing preventive treatment. —Ed.)

\* \* \*

### THEY HAVE FOLIAGE, TOO!

In the excitement of the blooming season, I expect very few of us give much thought to the foliage of our favorite perennial — but after the bloom is gone, and nothing remains but the fans to remind us of past beauty, have you, then, eyed the foliage of your iris critically?

Try it sometime! It's interesting and instructive. It should teach each hybridizer that there are desirable and

We grow several strains of Iris—Bearded, Japanese, Siberian, English, Dutch and Spanish and the new strain King Iris. A list and information on request.

**CHAUTAUQUA  
FLOWERFIELD**

GREENHURST, NEW YORK

Introducing . . .

## **PINK BOUNTIFUL**

(Cook, 1949)

The pinkest orchid-pink, the hardiest, the most floriferous Iris we have ever grown. Tall.

**\$15.00**

Have you seen and tried our  
**LOT C Collection?**

## **Longfield Iris Farm**

Mary Williamson  
419 West Market Street  
Bluffton, Indiana



## **Iris Kaempferi specialists**

GROWERS  
HYBRIDIZERS  
IMPORTERS

*Visit us during  
A.I.S. Convention  
in May*

**Gerber Gardens**

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PHONE OSWEGO 2-1711



undesirable qualities in foliage as well as in flower. Here, for instance, are some leaves which simply will not stand upright. They are well proportioned in size, but they flop. They flop all over the place. From any angle, the bed looks messy and unhealthy.

Then there's another, with fans which are simply tremendous. Measure those leaves! They are all of a yard long, and a good three inches wide. They're all out of proportion — they dominate the entire bed.

Here's another variety with slender, grasslike leaves. They carry themselves erect, but somehow present a spindly appearance.

Finally, we find a variety which has clean, well proportioned, erect foliage, which is in perfect scale with all other features of the plant. The foliage always stands erect, never flops, never shoots off at an odd angle, never forms a wide, loose, fan.

## IRISES

### *of Distinction*



The world's finest varieties! The world's finest rhizomes! Direct from our gardens to you at reasonable prices. A postcard brings our catalog. Going to the Convention? Stop and see us on the way!

### EASY BREEZE GARDENS

Route 3, Box 201-B  
Yakima, Washington

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## SOUTH PARK IRIS GARDENS

Growers of Fine Iris  
FLOYD E. BARNETT

1445 Cloverdale St., Seattle 8, Wash.

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## W A R N E R IRIS GARDENS

Growers of Fine Irises

BOX B,  
GRANDVIEW, WASHINGTON

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Go a step further — check the parentage of each of those plants . . . you'll be surprised, for you will find that their parents before them (if you have specimens to observe) likewise exhibited the same foliage habits to a marked degree.

Iris "A" has floppy foliage — so did one of its parents; in fact, so does a large part of the entire line of the hybridizer who originated Iris "A." Take a look in your own garden — you're due for a surprise.

In similar fashion Iris "B" has low, sparse foliage. It's erect and neat, but sparse, and out of scale with the bloom and stalk. Now take a look at all the iris which hybridizer "B" has introduced in the past several years. You'll find that a surprising number exhibit the same foliage habits.

You may say, "So what?" But don't forget, you iris fanciers, you look at bloom on your plants for five or six weeks . . . and you look at leaves for a long, long time!

It is difficult enough to keep an iris display looking presentable throughout the year, without having floppy foliage

to contend with. How often have you apologized to a non-iris friend—"Oh, but you should see them next June!" How hard it is to justify that expanse of green (partly) fans for eleven months to casual visitors! The tulip has decency enough to "go underground" and permit you to replace its brightness with something else, but the iris . . . you have it with you twelve months of the year!

So go out in your garden and study the foliage habits of your pets. Check the parentage of bad performers. Compare with children of the same parents. And when next blooming season comes around, study each iris, not as a bloom stalk, but as a complete plant.

Floppy foliage can be excused mighty easily when there are blooms to look at, but don't forget those other eleven months!

—*W. F. Scott, Jr., Ferguson, Mo.*

## ANOTHER FOLIAGE FAN

I do not hybridize but grow many other flowers in addition to iris and plan my show garden for year-round beauty. I belong to the Columbus Iris Society, and they have my garden on their annual tour.

In the interest of continued beauty after the iris flowers are gone, I wish that you would advise the hybridizers to try for better foliage.

In 1923 I won many prizes on iris and at that time I had *Pallida dalmatica* and *Madame Chereau*. In my opinion the foliage of these two and of *Princess Beatrice* — which is almost exactly like *Pallida dalmatica*—still is the finest of all.

*Pallida dalmatica* has broad, handsome fans with an exquisite silvery blue cast that is striking among other foliage. Leaves of new iris varieties all

# IRIS LOVERS

If you want the better varieties?

If you want to select your own extras?

If you want top size rhizomes?

## GET ON OUR MAILING LIST

Prices and liberal premiums have increased our business. Send for copy of Washington's Premier Iris Catalog. Also Daylilies. When in Portland, Oregon, in 1949, come and see our planting; we will welcome you, and show you everything we have.

# IRIS TEST GARDENS

Box 805, Route 1

Yakima, Washington



seem to have a moss or other green hue.

Madame Chereau also has dignified, slender bluish leaves of great value in landscaping. No matter where planted it stands straight and lovely the whole summer and fall.

This thing of working for larger and larger flowers and forgetting about the iris as landscaping material is not good. I have been observing the trend over a period of 25 years. In one bed I have thirty-four new varieties, all from the Symposium "100 best," and not one has foliage comparable in beauty to that of *Pallida dalmatica*.

I have a whole row of this old variety, with low-growing daylilies in front, around a bend at one corner of my garden. With a background which includes Persian lilac, weigela Bristol Ruby, forsythia, Chinese beauty bush, mock orange and bush honeysuckle, the

bluish cast of its foliage is stunning; I wouldn't change the planting for the world. I always have to apologize, however, for having in my garden such an old-fashioned and out-of-date plant.

Get the intelligent iris breeders to concentrate on the three old varieties I have mentioned for better foliage. If they can produce a large flower of the same *self color* as *Pallida dalmatica*, and on the same foliage, it will be a knockout in the iris world!

—Mrs. H. E. Emig, Columbus, Ohio

\* \* \*

#### TAKE A BOW, MR. JOHNSON

What a swell job of reporting Harold Johnson did on page 74 of BULLETIN 112 (Jan.)! It's just about the most orderly and most useful job that I have yet seen, and I hope other judges begin to use the same form.

—Robert E. Allen, White Plains, N. Y.

## *Eight that You'll Like*

BRIGHT SONG (Schroeder) Large rose pink with a tangerine beard. 39" .....	\$15.00
ESTATE (Benson) Low growing, medium sized white of heavy substance. No haft marks. 28" .....	\$10.00
MORNING (Faught) Originally named Oddity. A lovely combination of white, cream, and pale blue. 38" .....	\$10.00
RED WAVES (Lapham) Large clear red of excellent substance. Haft clean. Excellent breeder. 28" .....	\$10.00
SUNRISE SHADOWS (Faught) Large rose colored flowers that do not fade. Coloring similar to Inspiration. 28" .....	\$15.00
SWAN LAKE (Benson) Exceptionally fine light blue self. 36" .....	\$12.50
TOSCA (Benson) Ruffled medium lavender blue. Similar in color to The Admiral. Fine substance. 36" .....	\$10.00
WHITE SENTRY (Benson) One of the best whites I have seen. Very ruffled. 36" .....	\$10.00
ESTATE, SWAN LAKE, TOSCA, AND WHITE SENTRY, one each .....	\$42.50
BRIGHT SONG, MORNING, RED WAVES, and SUNRISE SHADOWS, one each .....	\$45.00

## A VILLAGE GARDEN

RALPH M. SCHROEDER

WARRENSBURG, ILLINOIS

## LOCAL GROUPS HOLD SPRING MEETINGS

### FORT WORTH, TEXAS

Honoring its past president, Mrs. R. E. Barr, and its new presiding officer, Mrs. I. P. Barrett, the Iris Culture Club of Fort Worth held a mid-January meeting at the home of Mrs. W. R. Jordan. Color slides made by Mrs. Jordan at the Annual Meeting in Nashville were shown, and plans were discussed for an iris show to be held during the blooming season.

### DENVER, COLO.

A well attended meeting of Region 20 members was held at Horticulture House in Denver on Feb. 24.

Plans were outlined for an enjoyable season, to include treks to Lincoln's Gardens at Pueblo, Long's Gardens at Boulder, and Dr. Loomis' gardens at Colorado Springs. Denver gardens usually start to bloom about the first week in June, but the season at Pueblo is two to three weeks earlier. Boulder is about one week earlier than Denver, and Colorado Springs a week later.

### ST. JOSEPH, MO.

Answering the call of former R.V.P. — now AIS Director — Carl Schirmer, some seventy iris enthusiasts from Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri gathered in St. Joseph, Mo., for a meeting on March 13. The Region 18 slides were shown and several hours of very lively discussion ensued.

(Nothing daunts the Region 18 leaders. We learned with regret that Mr. Schirmer suffered a \$60,000 fire loss at his drug store in St. Joseph on March 7; yet he didn't let that interfere with plans for the highly successful meeting only a week later.—Ed.)

At last we got it . . .

THAT IRIS

we have been hybridizing for over  
a number of years—

**CHAR-MAIZE**

(#44-24-2)

It has taken over all the good points from its ancestors and added something new . . . that chartreuse yellow color . . . on the heaviest petaled, most ruffled flowers we have ever seen. It's nice and large, too.

Write for our new catalogue and read more about Char-Maize. We're sure you'll want it.

**LYON IRIS GARDENS**

7041 Woodman Avenue  
Van Nuys, California

ORANGEMAN

SUNNY RUFFLES

WHISTLING SWAN

*To A.I.S. Members, only:  
\$13.50 Value for \$9.00*

These three Iris from Don Waters are just a hint of the lovely Iris being produced at Elmore, Ohio.

**Longfield Iris Farm**

419 West Market Street

Bluffton, Indiana

*Visitors always welcome!  
Flowering peak, May 30.*



## DIRECTORS HOLD MEETING

The winter meeting of the Society's Board of Directors was held at the Hotel Shelton in New York City on January 14 and 15, 1949. Attendants included Dr. Franklin Cook and Messrs. F. W. Cassebeer, Geddes Douglas, Junius P. Fishburn, David F. Hall, E. Greig Lapham, W. J. McKee, W. J. Moffat, Guy Rogers, Jesse E. Wills, Harold W. Knowlton, Carl O. Schirmer, Robert E. Allen and Sam Caldwell, Directors, and Dr. L. F. Randolph, Chairman of the Scientific Committee.

Complete copies of minutes of the meeting are available at the Nashville office and will be sent promptly to members requesting them. Following is a summary of significant actions taken by the Board:

Set Annual Dues for 1949 at \$3.50, Sustaining Dues at \$5.00.

Adopted a budget for the Central Office.

Created a new Region 20, comprising the state of Colorado.

Approved the appointment of W. F. Scott, Jr. as Regional Vice-President for Region 18 and Mrs. F. E. Winegar as Regional Vice-President for Region 20.

Authorized the publication of a 2000-copy paper-bound edition of *THE IRIS—AN IDEAL HARDY PERENNIAL* in 1949.

Adopted a \$1.00 registration fee for each new iris variety and a limit of 10 new varieties from any one breeder in a single calendar year except with special approval of the Board of Directors.

Approved Shreveport, Louisiana, as the location of the 1951 Annual Meeting and St. Louis, Missouri, tentatively, as the meeting place in 1952.

Authorized the Mary Swords Debaillon Award for Louisiana iris varieties.

Regretfully accepted Mr. Fishburn's resignation from the Board, due to pressure of his business. Mr. Robert E. Allen was appointed to complete Mr. Fishburn's unexpired term.

Elected officers as follows for 1949: Judge Guy Rogers, President; Mr. Robert E. Allen, Vice-President; Geddes Douglas, Secretary; E. Greig Lapham, Treasurer; Sam Caldwell, Editor.

Awarded the Medal for Hybridizing to Dr. Robert J. Graves and to Geddes Douglas.

Awarded the Medal for Distinguished Service to Dr. Franklin Cook and to Mr. Junius P. Fishburn.

## REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR—1948

CHAS. E. F. GERSDORFF AND MRS. WALTER COLQUITT

See *Check List* 1939 for explanations of abbreviations\* and BULLETIN 63, pages 78-80, Oct. 1936, for registration rules, one of which has been revised to read, "the closing date, etc., is July 5: recessed to Oct. 30, and any received after July 5 will be acted on after Oct. 30."

### ADDITIONS TO, AND CORRECTIONS OF, LIST OF BREEDERS, ETC.

- ALLEN-R. E. Mr. Robert E. Allen (1898- ), etc.; (corr. A.I.S. BULL. 97:48. May 1945).
- BECH. Mr. and Mrs. Jos. C. Becherer (iris breeders), 4809 Hamburg Ave., St. Louis 23, Mo. (revision).
- BRUCE. Mr. O. F. R. Bruce (plant collector), 1619 Prytania St., New Orleans, La.
- BRUMMITT. Mr. L. W. Brummitt (iris breeder), 30 Bloxham Road, Banbury, Oxon., England.
- CAVE. Mr. N. Leslie Cave (iris breeder), Summerlea, Sugden Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey, England.
- CHAPMAN-L. Mrs. L. Chapman (iris breeder), 55 Crest View Drive, Petts Wood, Kent, England.
- CHRISTIE-D. Mrs. Dorothy Christie (iris breeder), Putiki, Wanganui, N. Z.
- CLEVENGER. Clevenger's Iris Garden, Dr. Louis Clevenger, iris breeder and grower, North East State Teacher's College, Kirksville, Mo. (revision).
- CONGER. Mr. Sydney Conger (hybridizer and grower of Louisiana native irises), Arcadia, Louisiana.
- CRAIG-T. Mr. Tom Craig (1907- ), 910 Rome Drive, Los Angeles 31, Calif., (iris breeder); biological collector, illustrator of scientific papers; easel and mural painter; artist-war correspondent; teacher.
- DOZIER. Dr. H. L. Dozier (iris breeder, Director, U. S. Fur Animal Field Station, Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge), 203 Oakley Street, Cambridge, Md.
- DREWETT. Mr. Anthony W. Drewett, Silchester, Homesdale Road, Orpington, Kent, England.
- EASON. Eason's Gardens (iris grower), R.R. #8, Box 394, Tulsa, Okla.
- ECCLES. Mr. M. E. Eccles (1884- ), (iris breeder fifteen years), 1807 E. 40th St., Kansas City 4, Mo. (revision).

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\*Abbreviations tentatively being used as new ones are MMB, for Medium Height Miscellaneous Bearded (formerly IMB), and LMB, for Low Miscellaneous Bearded (formerly DMB), (the Onco, etc. hybrids); also BB, for Medium Height Border Bearded (formerly IB), and LBB for Low Border Bearded (formerly DB).



- F A S S . Mr. Peter J. Fass (1904- ), (iris breeder), Kay St. & McCarthy Lane, Jericho, L.I., N.Y. and P. O. Box 749, Hicksville, L.I., N.Y. (address changes).
- FASS-H. Mr. H. P. Fass (iris breeder), (1929- ), Kay St. and McCarthy Lane, Jericho, L.I., N.Y. and P. O. Box 749, Hicksville, L.I., N.Y.
- FAY. Fay Gardens (and O. W. Fay, prop., iris breeder and grower), 1522 Isabella St., Wilmette, Ill. (revision).
- FIELDING. Mr. Roy W. Fielding (1887- ), (Civil Service, Calif., and iris breeder), 1144 S. Euclid Ave., San Gabriel, Calif.
- FOSTER-R.A. Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Foster (joint iris breeders), 46 Bay State Road, Belmont, Mass.
- GARD. CITY. Garden City Perennial Gardens (perennials), Fremont, Nebr.
- GATES. Mrs. W. A. Gates, (1892- ) (iris breeder), 414 W. College St., Aurora, Mo. (revision).
- GLAD-A-WAY. Glad - A - Way Gardens (grower and breeders of gladiolus and irises), 9001 Lorena Ave., Hayward, Calif.
- GRANDVIEW GARD. Grandview Gardens (Mrs. C. R. Clark, prop.) (iris grower), 372 Grandview, Memphis, Tenn.
- GRAPES. Miss Hazel Barnica Grapes (iris breeder), Big Springs, Nebr.
- GRAY-N. Miss Nellie Gray (iris breeder), Port Huron, Mich.
- HALL-H. Mr. H. F. Hall (iris breeder), 416 Chester Ave., Moorestown, N. J.
- HAMPTON. Miss Rowena Hampton (iris breeder), 660 D St., San Bernardino, Calif.
- HERBERT-W.I. Mr. William I. Herbert (iris breeder), 15 Noel Road, Wallisdown, Bournemouth, England.
- JOHNSON-R.H. Mr. Roswell H. Johnson (iris breeder), 1212 N. Sycamore Ave., Hollywood 38, Calif.
- KIMLARK FL. GARD. The Kimlark Flower Gardens (Mrs. Max Raboin), growers of irises and other hardy plants, Box 235, Niagara, Wisc.
- KOPP-SMITH. Mrs. Iva M. Kopp-Smith (Mrs. B. L. Smith), 506 Miami St., Hiawatha, Kan. (iris breeder).
- KOSTA. Kosta Gardens (J. Bernard Kosta, iris grower), successor to Amity Gardens, Box 43, Amity, Ore.
- LARSEN. Mr. Carl A. Larsen, etc., 2561 Elm Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah (change in address).
- LEWIS GARD. Lewis Gardens (Charles H. Lewis), 4512 State Line, Kansas City, Kan.
- LOTH. GARD. The Lena Lothrop Gardens, 211 East 18th St., San Bernardino, Calif. (irises and bulbs).
- LYON. Lyon Iris Gardens (Mrs. David Wm. Lyon, prop., and David Wm. Lyon, iris breeder; growers), 7041 Woodman Ave., Van Nuys, Calif. (revision).

- MARX . Walter Marx Gardens (Walter Marx, 1908- ), iris breeder, grower of irises, day-lilies, chrysanthemums and other perennials), Route 2, Box 11, Boring, Ore. (rev.).
- MAUDLIN. Mrs. Laura May (Smith) Maudlin (1883- ), (accountant, breeding iris since 1937), 3338 Graham St., Seattle 8, Wash.
- McCLANAHAN. Mr. C. C. McClanahan (1885- ) (iris breeder), 2209 7th Ave., Council Bluffs, Iowa.
- McKEE GARD. McKee Gardens (Wm. J. McKee), 45 Kenwood Ave., Worcester, Mass.
- MIESS. Miss Elma Miess (1892- ), (iris breeder and grower), Syllmar Gardens, 12982 Borden Ave., San Fernando, Calif.
- MOON-MELVA. Mrs. Melva O. Moon (iris breeder), Star Route, Santa Barbara, Calif.
- MOORE-J.B. Mrs. John Beverly Moore (1895- ), 520 North Main St., Benton, Ill. (iris breeder).
- NAYLOR. Mr. M. D. Naylor (1891- ), (Mgr., Southern Utah Motors, Pres., Utah Iris Society, iris breeder), 1484 Yale Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah.
- NELS.-E.P. Mr. Elmer P. Nelson (iris breeder), Paradise Iris Garden, Honey Run Road, Route 2, Box 2289, Paradise, Calif.
- NICHOLLS. All varieties credited to NICHOLLS should be credited to (Nichols) and they do not refer to (Nic.) which is for Col. Nicholls.
- PARADISE GARD. Paradise Iris Garden (Mr. Elmer P. Nelson), Honey Run Road, Route 2, Box 2289, Paradise Calif. (irises).
- PARRY NURS. Parry Nurseries (iris and hemerocallis), Signal Mountain, Tenn.
- PAUL-C. J. Mr. C. J. Paul, (1892- ), (machinist, started breeding iris in 1922; special interest, oncocyclus type), 3017 So. 7th East, Salt Lake City, Utah.
- PLOUGH. Mr. Gordon W. Plough (1909- ), 12 So. Delaware Ave., Wenatchee, Wash., (nurseryman, iris breeder, Accredited A.I.S. Judge.)
- RABOIN-M. Mrs. Max (Marie A.) Raboin, (iris breeding since 1943; grower of irises, daffodils, peonies, daylilies, gladiolus and delphiniums), The Kimlark Flower Gardens, Box 235, Niagara, Wisc.
- RAINBOW H. GARD. Rainbow Hybridizing Gardens, (Lloyd Austin, prop.), Placerville, Calif.
- RAWLINS. Mrs. S. P. Rawlins (iris breeder), 1244 Park St., Bowling Green, Ky.
- RYLE. Mr. Walter H. Ryle (Pres., Northeast Missouri State Teacher's College; iris breeder), Kirksville, Mo.
- RYLE-W. Mr. Walter H. Ryle, Jr. (iris breeder), Kirksville, Mo.
- STANLEY-L. Mr. Lyle Stanley (iris breeder), 25148 O'Neil Ave., Hayward, Calif.
- STORMAN. Mrs. Geo. Storman (1915- ), (iris breeder), Chiles Valley Route, St. Helena, Calif.



STUMP-M. Miss Mary M. Stump (iris breeder), (prop., Garden City Perennial Gardens), Fremont, Nebr.

SYLLMAR GARD. Syllmar Gardens (Miss Elma Miess), 12982 Borden Ave., San Fernando, Calif.

TOMPKINS. Mr. Chester W. Tompkins (iris breeder and grower), Fleur de Lis Gardens, 423 Casselman, Sioux City 17, Iowa. (change in address).

TYLER-C. Mr. Carl Tyler (formerly Tyler's Iris Garden, Supelveda Blvd., Van Nuys,

Calif.), now Big Meadow Ranch, Lovelock, Nev.

TYLER-G. Mrs. Grace Tyler (iris breeder), 318 North Hayworth, Hollywood, Calif.

WAXA. NURS. Waxahachie Nursery Co. (general nursery, including some irises), Waxahachie, Texas.

WOLFE, W. G. Wolfe Gardens (W. G. Wolfe, (1867- ) prop., iris breeder and grower and apiarist, Frisco. Texas. (rev.)

WRIGHT-C. A. Mr. Chas. A. Wright (1874- ) (iris breeder), R.R. 2, Middletown, Ind.

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## REGISTRATIONS, APPROVALS, UNAPPROVED, UNDER INVESTIGATION, CORRECTIONS AND SYNONYMS FOR 1948

ADMIRAL NIMITZ. Etc.; (Graves 1948); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:4. July 1948.

\*AFTER MIDNIGHT. Etc.; (Muhl N.); R., 1945, etc.

AFTER MIDNIGHT. TB-M-RID (Muhl. N.); R., 1948; STORM KING x SABLE); #46-70C; C.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. 106:128. □.

ALAMITOS. TB-EE-VLA-Y4L (Heller N.); R., 1948; (Y Sdlg. x MISS CALIFORNIA); #51-11-1.

\*AL ARED. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1936; etc.

AL ARED. TB-M-R6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ALBERT GERSDORF x BERTHA DOROTHEA); □ sl.

ALARIC. TB-M-R4M (Allen-R.E. N.); R., 1948; (RADIANT x PRAIRIE SUNSET); □ v. sl.

ALARK. TB-M-WW (Allen-R. E. N.); R., 1948; (CLARIBEL x ALBA SUPERBA); □ mild grape.

ALARM. TB-M-R7D (Allen-R. E. N.); R., 1948 ( (JOYCETTE x RADIANCE) x (ELLA WINCHESTER x E. B. WILLIAMSON) ) x (Self); □ v. sl.

ALCESTE. TB-M-B3L (Cay.-R. 1947); Cay.-R., 1947; R., 1948.

\*ALICIA. Etc.; (Wettstein N.); R., 1938; etc.

ALICIA. TB-M-B1M (Rawlins N.); R., 1948; (GREAT LAKES x GLORIOLE); □.

\*ALLAGLOW. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1937; etc.

- ALLAGLOW. TB-LaM-S6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (CHRISTABEL x RUBEO, a Lap. Sdlg.) x (WAKARUSA) ☐ sl. pungent.
- ALLEGRO. TB-M-Y9M (Walker N.); R., 1948; (CITY OF LINCOLN x NARANJA); #23-46.
- \*AL MANSUR. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1937; etc.
- AL MANSUR. TB-M-R6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ALBERT GERSDORFF x MAYLINA, R., 1946); ☐ sl.
- \*ALOSAKA. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1936; etc.
- ALOSAKA. TB - MLa - R 3 D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (MRS. GARRET O. MOORE x KNIGHT WARRIOR, R., 1945); ☐ sl. sw.
- \*ALSEIDES. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1938; etc.
- ALSEIDES. TB - L a M - R 6 L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (FRANCESCA x FRANK ADAMS); ☐ sl.
- ALTAMOHR. TBM - M - B7M (Paul-C.J. N.); R., 1948; WILLIAM MOHR x ALTA CALIFORNIA).
- AMADINE. Etc.; (Douglas-G. 1946); etc.; A.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:4. July 1948.
- AMAZON. TB-EM-R1M (Eccles N.); R., 1948; (EL CAPITAN x —); ☐.
- AMAZON TAN. TB - M - S4L (Hillson N.); R., 1948; (Hill Sdlg. x PRAIRIE SUNSET) x (Hill Sdlg. x SANDALWOOD); ☐ M.
- AMBER WHITE. TB-VLa-Y4L (Miess N.); R., 1948; (BERKELEY GOLD x SIERRA SNOW); #739A; ☐.
- \*AMERICANA. Etc.; (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1946; etc.
- AMERICANA. TB - M - R 9 L (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948; (J. Sass #4272 x Loomis' VQ 50).
- AMIQUITA. Etc. (Nies); H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:5. July 1948.
- \*AMONETTE. Etc.; (Wolfe-W.G. N.); R., 1945; etc.
- AMONETTE. TB - M - Y 4 L (Wolfe-W.G. N.); R., 1948; (LADY PARAMOUNT x —); #45-28; ☐ pl.
- ANNA BARNETT. TB-M-S7L (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948; (SPRING MAID x MATULA).
- ANNE NEWHARD. Etc. (Weisner 1940); Fair. 1940; Kellogg 1940; Whiting 1940; H.M., A.I.S. 1944; etc.; R., 1948.
- ANNUNCIATION. TB - M - W2L (Chapman-L. N.); R., 1948; (PEACEMAKER x GUDRUN); ☐ sl.
- \*ANTIQUUE COPPER. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1945; etc.
- ANTIQUUE MAHOGANY. TB-La-R7D (Tobie N.); R., 1948; (DOWN EAST x SOLID MAHOGANY); ☐ sl.
- APPLE BLOOM. TB-M-R4L (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948; (Loomis' SQ 54) x ((Lapham Sdlg. (SPINDRIFT x ISABELLINA))).
- APRICOT GLORY. TB-M-La-R4L (Muhl. N.); R., 1948; ((#46-113: (GOLDEN EAGLE x Hall-D. #4024)) x (GAY ORCHID); #48-76; ☐.
- ARABIAN NIGHTS. TB-M-R9M (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; (COPPER ROSE x REDMAYNE); #1/U114.



- ARCADIA BUTTERCUP. Etc.; (Millik. 1947); H.M., A.I.S. 19-84; A.I.S. BULL. **110**:4. July 1948.
- ARCTIC SNOW. TB-M-W6L (Brummitt N.); R., 1948; (WHITE CITY x GREAT LAKES); ☐ sl.
- ARGUS PHEASANT. Etc.; (DeForest 1948); H.M., A.I.S. 19-48; A.I.S. BULL. **110**:4. July 1948.
- ARIOSO. Cal-B3L (Nies 1948); Lyon 1948; R., 1948; (ORCHID SPRITE x AGNES JAMES).
- ASILOMAR. TB-M-W2L (Mit. N.); R., 1948; (WAYFARER x LOVE AFFAIR); #4-78, H.C., 1947; A.I.S. BULL. **106**:128. July 1947.
- Aspasie. TB-M-R3M (Cay.-R. 1947); Cay.-R. 1947.
- AUBURN TRESS. TB-M-S6M (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; (COPPER ROSE x AUTUMN SPLENDOR); #6/T64.
- AUGUSTA. Etc.; (McKee 1948); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. **110**:4. July 1948.
- AUGUST TWILIGHT. TB-Re-R9L (Brown N.); R., 1948; (SEPTEMBER SKIES x AUTUMN SUNSET).
- AURORA DAWN. TB-M-S7M (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (VEISHEA x KOREA); #4325; ☐ sp.
- AURORA SUNSET. TB-La-S9L (Gates N.); R., 1948; (DAUNTLESS x GRACE STURTEVANT).
- AUTUMN GOLD. TB-M-Y4D (Miess N.); R., 1948; (MEXICO x TOBACCO ROAD); #318-B; ☐ sl.
- BABY'S BREATH. TB-EM-R4L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (Loomis' SQ-70 x MELITZA); ☐ sl.
- BALLARAT. TB-E-M-Y4M (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; (GOLDEN HIND) x (NARANJA x REDMAYNE) #2/T5.
- BALTIS. Etc.; (White-C. G. 19-48); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. **110**:5. July 1948.
- BANDED BEAUTY. TB-M-Y8D (Sass-H.P. N.); R., 1945; (TIFFANY x SIEGFRIED) x (ORLOFF x RAMESES); ☐ none; (Corr. A.I.S. BULL. **104**:105. Jan. 1947; **Blended Beauty**. etc.; (Sass-H.P. N.); etc.; a typographical error in A.I.S. BULL. **102**:100. July 1946.
- BEGINNER'S LUCK. TB-M-R1D (Gates N.); R., 1948; (FOLKWANG x LA TENDRESSE); ☐ str. Jan. 1947; B ... UNUN UN BELLE BRUNETTE. TB-M-R5D (Mit. 1948); Millik. Gard. 1948; R., 1948; (ORLOFF x SIEGFRIED) x (Sdlg. 6-6 x SIEGFRIED); #0-139; ☐ none.
- BELLERIVE. Etc. (Benson-C. W. N.); R., 1947; etc. corr. A.I.S. BULL. **108**:132. Jan. 1948.
- BELOVED. Etc.; (White - A. N.); R., 1941; etc.; \$.
- BELVIDERE. TB-M-La - R4D (Nes. N.); R., 1948; (Nes. #43-2B: (SUNSET SERENADE x SEQUATCHIE) x (BRYCE CANYON); #45-26A; ☐ none.
- BEN BOLT. TB-La-B7D (Loth. N.); R., 1948; (ESQUIRE x Sdlg.); #47-57.
- \*BENEDICTUS. Etc.; (Mor. N.); R., 1928: etc.
- BENEDICTUS. TB-E-M-W4L (Foster-R.A. N.); R., 1948; (JERRY x W Sdlg.); ☐ none.
- BENGAL PRINCESS. TB-EE-VLa-Y9M (Heller N.); R., 1948; (JEAN SIRET x SUNGOLD).

- BENTON ALCIBIADES. TB-La-Y8M (Morris 1946); Wal. 1946.
- BENTON DIERDRE. TB-M-W6D rev. (Morris 1946); Wal. 1946.
- BENTON FAUSTUS. TB-La-R9D (Morris 1946); Wal. 1946; R., 1948; (fr. 2 Sdlgs.).
- BENTON HADLEIGH. TB-M-S6M (Morris 1946); Wal. 1946.
- BENTON MENACE. TB-M-R1M (Morris 1946); Wal. 1946.
- BENTON MOCHA. TB-M-S4D (Morris 1946); Wal. 1946.
- BENTON RUBEO. TB-M-W8D (Morris 1946); Wal. 1946.
- BENTON SIENNA. TB-M-Y8M (Morris 1946); Wal. 1946.
- BENTON TAPESTRY. TB-M-S7D (Morris 1946); Wal. 1946.
- BERTHA CARMACK. TB-M-R6L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (FRANCISCA x FRANK ADAMS); ☐ sp.
- BIRD OF PARADISE. TMB-M-S7D (Aylett N.); R., 1948; (GRACE MOHR x NARANJA) x (W.R. Stevens' huge R Sdlg.).
- BISHOP'S ROBE. TB-M-B7D (Heller N.); R., 1948; (THE BISHOP x SABLE); #64-9-7.
- BISHOP'S VELVET. TB-EE-B7D (Heller N.); R., 1948; (THE BISHOP x SABLE).
- BLACK BOY. TB-EM-R6D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (VELVET DRAPES) x ((Sass #30-17) x (M. A. PORTER x TENEBRAE)); ☐ sl.
- BLACK FOREST. Etc.; (Schreiner-R. 1945); A.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:4. July 1948.
- BLACK KNIGHT. TB-M-B1D (Palmer N.); R., 1948; (PERSONALITY x Culpepper Sdlg.); ☐ gr.
- Black Maroon.** DB Nat. 1940; BLACK VELVET. IB.
- BLONDE BOMBER. TB-M-La-Y6L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ARCATA x Loomis' SQ-70); ☐ lo.
- \*BLUE ACRES. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1938; etc.
- BLUE ACRES. Spur - M - B1L (Wash. 1948); Fair. 1948; R., 1948.
- BLUE ANGELWINGS. TB-E-W3L rev. (McKee N.); R., 1948; (((SNOW FLURRY x #4017) x (MISTY ROSE x MIOBELLE)) x (SNOW FLURRY)); ☐ sl.
- BLUE FLASH. DB - M - B1L (Marx N.); R., 1948; (REFLECTION x *chamaeiris*).
- BLUE FOR BERYL. TB-M-B1L (Drewett N.); R., 1948; (GREAT LAKES x GOLDEN MAJESTY); ☐ sl.
- BLUE GLOW. Etc.; (Nic. 1945); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:5. July 1948.
- BLUE JEANS. TB - M - B1D (Gates N.); R., 1948; (EL CAPITAN x SAN DIEGO); ☐.
- BLUEMOHR. Etc.; (Marx ); H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:5. July 1948.
- BLUE MOOD. TB-M-La-B1D (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (VATICAN PURPLE x THE RAVEN); #4713; ☐ gr.
- BLUE PACIFIC. TB-E-B1L (Barnewitz N.); R., 1948; (BLUE ROCK x MELDORIC); ☐ lilac.
- BLUE REFRAIN. Etc.; (Douglas-G.); H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:5. July 1948.



- BLUE RIM. TB-M-La-W2M (Larsen N.); R., 1948; (PURISSIMA x ALAMEDA) x (ALDURA); #12-D-39; H.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. BULL. **106**:128. July 1947; ☐.
- BLUE SUNSET. TB-M-S1L (Essig N.); R., 1948; (MOUNT WASHINGTON x REDGLOW); #1760-43; ☐ sl.
- BLUE VIOLET. TB-La-B1M (Craig-T. 1948); R., 1948; (SAN DIEGO x SIERRA BLUE); ☐ fr.
- BLUMOHR. TMB-M-La-B1L (Marx N.); R., 1948; (WM. MOHR x ORLOFF); ☐ v. sl.
- BOLD COURTIER. TB-M-La-R4M (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (MIRABELLE x CEDAR ROSE); #4378; ☐ sl.
- BON ROUGE. Etc.; (Debailon: Dormon 1942); etc.; (corr. BULL. **92**:56. Feb. 1944).
- \*BOOTSIE. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1937; etc.
- BOOTSIE. TB-M-R3D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (LEGEND x CHIKISIN, R., 1945); ☐ lin.
- BRIDAL PINK. TB-M-R4M (McKee N.); R., 1948; ((MELITZA x MIOBELLE) x (Hall #4207)) x (Hall #4207); ☐ lo.
- BRIGADOON. TB-M-Y8D (Small-R.C.N.); R., 1948; (FAIR ELAINE x ELSA SASS); ☐ none.
- BRIGHT BIRD. TB-EM-R6D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (EVENING SKIES x MAYLINA, R., 1946); ☐ sl. sw.
- BRIGHT FLAME. TB-M-R6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (EVENING SKIES x MAYLINA, R., 1946); ☐ sl.
- BRIGHT GEM. TB-M-La-R7L (DeForest N.); R., 1948; (Rose Sdlg. x FLORA ZENOR); ☐.
- BRIGHTLING. TB-M-R6M (Cassebeer N.); R., 1948; (percentage lost); #133.
- BRIGHT SUNRISE. TB-M-La-S9M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (HOOSIER SUNRISE x MAYLINA, R., 1946); ☐ sw. sp.
- BRILLIANT GOLD. TB-M-La-Y7M (Miess N.); R., 1948; (RIO ORO x PRAIRIE SUNSET); #388B; ☐.
- BRITTANIA. TB-M-La-R7D (Tompkins N.); R., 1948; (CAPE BON x REDWOOD); ☐ none.
- BRONZE BROCADE. Etc. (Nesmith 1948); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. **110**:5. July 1948.
- BROWN STAIN. Etc. (Muhl. 1948); etc.; #46-17W; C.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. BULL. **106**:128. July 1947.
- BROWN SUEDE. TB-M-S6D (Heller N.); R., 1948; (JUNALUSKA x SONNY BOY); #135-5-2.
- B. St. Helena.** BEA ST. HELENS. A.I.S. BULL. **107**:48. Oct. 1947.
- BUCKTHORN BROWN. TB-M-R6M (Millik. 1948); Millik. Gard. 1948; R., 1948; (CHINA MAID x THE MISSIMO); ☐.
- BURGUNDY SPLASH. TB-La-Y8D rev. (Craig-T. N.); R., 1948; ((TIFFANY) x ((MADAME LOUIS AUREA) x (TIFFANY x LOS ANGELES)))); ☐ sl.
- BURMESE RUBY. TB-M-La-R4M (Muhl. N.); R., 1948; (RED VALOR x RED GLEAM); #46-122; ☐.
- BUTTERFIELD TRAIL TB-M-Y3L (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948; (SPUN GOLD x OREGON TRAIL).

**Butterfly.** B U T T E R F L Y  
WINGS. A.I.S. BULL. 107:64.  
Oct. 1947.

BUTTERMILK SKY. TB-La-  
Y4L (Walker N.); R., 1948;  
(SKY MAID x LENZSCHNEE);  
#27-45.

CALATA. IB-M-R1D (Peck-  
ham N.); R., 1948; (Sdlg. x  
Self); #40-29-44.

CALIFORNIA PINK. TB-EE-  
VLa-R7M (Heller N.); R.,  
1948; #250-3-9; (Miss CALI-  
FORNIA x —).

CANARY ISLAND. Spur-M-  
W6M (Walker N.); R., 1948;  
#S-1-47, H.C., A.I.S., 1947;  
A.I.S. Bull. 106:128. July  
1947.

CANBERRA. TB-M-W5D (Ay-  
lett 1941); R., 1948; (VALIANT  
x SNOWKING); ☐.

CANDLE GLOW. TB-MLa-W4  
(Dozier N.); R., 1948; (GOL-  
DEN MAJESTY x —).

\*CARA MIA. Etc.; (Gers. N.);  
R., 1935; etc.

CARA MIA. TB-La-R4L (Gers.  
N.); R., 1948; (FRANK ADAMS  
x LOOMIS' #SQ7O); ☐ sl.

\*CARDELINO. Etc.; (Gers. N.);  
R., 1939; etc.

CARDELINO. TB - La - Y4M  
(Gers. N.); R., 1948; (JADE  
MADONNA x FRANK ADAMS);  
☐ lem.

CARDINAL'S ROBE. TB-MLa-  
R7D (Lyell N.); R., 1948;  
(INDIAN HILLS x SABLE);  
#46-50-3; ☐ pl.

\*CARL LUDWIG. Etc.; (Gers.  
N.); R., 1935; etc.

CARL LUDWIG. TB-EM-R6D  
(Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ALBERT  
GERSDORFF x BERTHA DORO-  
THEA, R., 1946); ☐ v.sl.

CAROGINIA. Vinic-W9L rev.  
(Conger N.); R., 1948; (CON-  
TRAST x CAROLINE DORMON.

CAROUSEL. Etc.; (Douglas-G.  
1948); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S.  
Bull. 110:4. July 1948.

CASCARONE. TB-M-Y8D rev.  
(Heller N.); R., 1948; (TIF-  
FANY x UKIAH).

CASCO. TB-M-B9D (Tobie  
N.); R., 1948; (sister to AU-  
COCISCO).

CATHARINE CADMAN. TB-  
M-Y4L (Small-R.C. N.); R.,  
1948; (Loomis' SQ 51 x Eros).

CENTENNIAL BEAUTY. TB-  
M-R1L (Duquaine N.); R.,  
1948; (MATTERHORN x ES-  
TELLA); ☐ none.

CENTENNIAL G R A P E  
WINE. TB - M - R7D (Du-  
quaine N.); R., 1948; (MAT-  
TERHORN x ESTELLA); ☐ gr.

CENTENNIAL S U M M E R.  
TB-M-R7M (Naylor N.); R.,  
1948; (RADIANT x GOLDEN  
MAJESTY); ☐ spicy.

CHAMOIS. Etc.; (Klein. 1944);  
A.M., A.I.S., 1948; A.I.S. Bull.  
110:4 July 1948.

CHANSONETTE. TB-M-R4L  
(Tompkins 1948); R., 1948;  
(MOONBLOSSOM x LULLABY);  
☐ none.

CHANGELING. TB - M - W6L  
rev. (Gers. N.); R., 1948;  
(FRANK ADAMS x Loomis'  
#SQ7O); ☐ sl.

CHARIOTEER. TB - M - La-  
R4M (Tompkins N.); R.,  
1948; (CASA MORENA x CAMP-  
FIRE GLOW); ☐ none.

CHARLES LYNCH. TB-MLa-  
R3D (Gers. N.); R., 1948;  
(WACONDA x VELVET ROYAL);  
☐ sl. gr.



- CHAR-MAIZE. TB - EM - Y1L (Lyon N.); R., 1948; (SNOW FLURRY x AZTEC COPPER); #44-24-2; ☐; H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:5. July 1948.
- CHARMING MISTRESS. TB-M-La-W6D rev. (Muhl. N.); R., 1948; (GOLD RUFFLES x PINK FORMAL); #48-79.
- CHARTREUSE GOWN. TB-La-W6L rev. (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ARCATA x MELITZA); ☐ sl.
- CHIEF TECUMSEH. TB-M-La-S6D (L y e l l N.); R., 1948; (MISS CALIFORNIA x MATULA); #43-8-2; ☐ M.
- CHILI. TB-E-R7M (Dozier N.); R., 1948; (ROSY WINGS x JUNALUSKA); #47-2.
- \*CHING LING. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1939; etc.
- CHING - LING. TB - M - Y6L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (MELITZA x NED LEFEVRE); ☐ sw.
- CHLOE. TB-M-R3M (Drewett N.); R., 1948; (ROSE VIOLET x ROSY WINGS); ☐ str.
- CHRISSY WOLFE. MAP-R1M (Wolfe-H.M. N.); R., 1948; (DOROTHY K. WILLIAMSON x *spuria*).
- CINNAMOHR. TB - M - B3M (Duquaine N.); R., 1948; (CINNABAR x FRIEDA MOHR); ☐ cin.
- CINNAMON ISLES. TB-M-La-R4L (Wareham N.); R., 1948, (fr. a line of sdlg. involving DOMINION, *trojana* and derivatives of GOLD FISH); ☐.
- CINNAMON SPICE. TB-VLa-Y6D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ROSE Madder x PETRUCCHIO) x (NARANJA); ☐ cin. spice.
- CITATION. TB - M - B1M (Rawlins N.); R., 1948; (GREAT LAKES x GLORIOLE).
- CITY OF HOBART. TB-M-Y8D (Aylett 1944); R., 1948; (SPUN GOLD x TIFFANY); ☐ sl.
- CITY OF KIRKSVILLE. TB-ME-B7D (Ryle-W. N.); R., 1948; (WACONDA x LEGEND).
- CLARET CUP. Vers - R1M (Hillson N.); R., 1948; (KERMESINA x —).
- CLEAR SAILING. TB-M-La-W-4 (DeForest N.); R., 1948; (TIFFANJA x CORITICA).
- COASTAL COMMAND. TB-La-B3M (Pilk. 1949); Orp. 1949; R., 1948; (CHINA MAID x —); Selected for Trial at Wisley, June 8, 1948; Bronze Medal, The I. Soc., Eng., June 8, 1948; ☐ none.
- COLONEL BOB. TB-ME-R6D (Ryle N.); R., 1948; (TIFFANY x Sdlg.).
- COLOR GUARD. Spur-B1M (Nies N.); R., 1948; #47S7; H.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. 106:128. July 1947; H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:5. July 1948.
- COLOR SERGEANT. TB-M-La-R6D (Hall-H. N.); R., 1948; (#R-58 x #R-59); #R-79; H.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. 106:128. July 1947; ☐ sl.
- COLOSSAL. TMB-E-B1M (Marx 1946); Marx 1946; R., 1948; (WILLIAM MOHR x EL CAPITAN).
- COME AGAIN. DB-M-Re-R1D (Marx N.); R., 1948; (Sass Pur Sdlg. x —); ☐ sl.

- CONFETTI. TB-M-W8L (Schreiner-R. 1948); Schreiner 1948; R., 1948; ((MADAME LOUIS AUREAU x SIEGFRIED) x (RUTH POLLOCK)) x (LADY OF SHALLOTT).
- CONTRAST. Etc.; (Debaillon: Dormon 1943); etc.; (coll. in wild by Mr. Bruce, New Orleans, La., local name **Bruce's Bicolor**); corr. Bull. 92:58 Feb. 1944).
- CONTREDANSE. TB-EM-B1M (Peckham N.); R., 1948; (ALAMEDA x SELF); #40-40-45C; ☐ sl. sw.
- \*COPPER BEECH. Etc.; (Nes. N.; R., 1944, etc.
- COPPER BEECH. TB-M-R4D (Nes. N.); R., 1948; (NED LEFEVRE x SUKEY OF SALEM); #44-27A; ☐ sl.; A.I.S. Bull. 107:60. Oct. 1947.
- COPPER DAWN. TB-M-R6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948 (PINK BUTTERFLY x EVENING SKIES); ☐ lin.
- CORAL CROWN. TB-ME-R4L (Raboin-M. N.); R., 1948; (ETHELWYNN DUBUAR x —); ☐ none.
- CORDELL HULL. TB-La-R6D (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948; (GOLDEN AGE x GYPSY).
- CORNFLOWER. TB-M-B1M (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (SEA BLUE x GREAT LAKES); #4413; ☐ lo.
- CORONA DEL MAR. TB-M-B1M (Heller N.); R., 1948; (RADIANT x SIERRA BLUE).
- CORPORAL MARY. Etc.; (Graves); H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:5. July 1948.
- CORSICANA. TB-La-Y4L (Taylor-W.E. 1948); Amity 1948; R., 1948; (JEAN CAYEUX x COPPER LUSTRE); ☐ sl.
- COURTESY. TB-MLa-B1L (Tompkins N.); R., 1948; (GALLANTRY x CHIVALRY); ☐ pl. spicy.
- COURT HERALD. TB-M-Y4D (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; ((GOLDEN MAJESTY) x (GOLDEN HIND x FIRELIGHT)) x ((GOLDEN MAJESTY) x (NARANJA x REDMAYNE)); #1/V163.
- CREAM PUFF. TB-VLa-Y1L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (FRANK ADAMS x Loomis' TQ70); ☐ lo.
- CRESTED GEM. Ev-D-B1L (Henry 1948); Fair. 1948; R., 1948; (Coll. 1942, from Walker Co., Ala.).
- CRESTED IVORY. EV-D-W4 (Henry 1948); Fair. 1948; R., 1948; (Coll. 1942, from Walker Co., Ala.).
- CREST OF BRONZE. TB-M-S9D (Herbert-W.I. N.); R., 1948; (Helios (Cay.) x W.R. DYKES) X (DEPUTE NOM-BLOT); ☐ str.
- CUBAN CARNIVAL. TB-La-S7D (Sass Bros. 1948); Maple Road 1948; R., 1948; (BERTHA GERSDORFF x MOONLIT SEA); #46-113; ☐ sl.
- DAINTY DUCHESS. TB-M-WW (Long-B.R. 1948); Wallace 1948; R., 1948; ((NEPENTHE) x ((MRS. VALERIE WEST x MME. CECILE BOUSCANT) x (MOONLIGHT))).
- DAINTY FRILLS. TB-M-Y8M (Hillson N.); R., 1948; ☐ pl.
- DANIEL BERNARD. TB-M-R4M (Ulrich N.); R., 1948; (THE RED DOUGLAS x SIERRA BLUE).



- DANUBE WAVES. Etc.; (Schreiner-R. 1947); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:5. July 1948.
- DAPPERLING. DB - E - Y4M (breeder unknown); Lyon 1944; R., 1948.
- DARK JEWELS. TB-EM-R9M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (Mrs. GARRETT O. MOORE x SERGEANT GERSDORFF); ☐ sl. gr.
- DARLENE. TB-M-Y4D (McKee N.); R., 1948; ((GOLDEN MAJESTY x CHOSEN) x (JOMAR x MIOBELLE)) x (DAYBREAK)); #47-40 Y; H. C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. **106**:128. July 1947; ☐ sl.
- DAWN RAYS. TB-M-S7L (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (MIDWEST GEM x FIESTA); #4019; ☐ lo.
- DAWN REFLECTION. TB-M-Y8L (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; ((TIFFANY) x ((Miss CALIFORNIA) x (REWA x NEW DAWN)) x (MADAME LOUIS AUREAU))) ; #1/U86.
- DEEP NIGHT. Etc.; (Corey 1947); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:4. July 1948.
- DEMURE. TB-M-R7L (Nes. N.); R., 1948; (G-Douglas #405 x Nes. #42-M); #45-15A; ☐.
- DESERT TWILIGHT. TB-M-S7M (Miess N.); R., 1948; (SIERRA SNOW x MING YELLOW); #270A; ☐.
- \*DOLLY VARDEN, Etc.; (Hall-D. N.); R., 1946; etc.
- DOLLY VARDEN. TB-M-R4M (Hall-D. N.); R., 1948; (flamingo Pi Sdlg. #44-26 x COURTIER); ☐ sl.
- DOLLY WALKER. TB-M-Y4D (Aylett 1939); R., 1948; (CALIFORNIA GOLD x COPPER LUSTRE); ☐ w.r.
- DONATELLO. TB - M - W2M (Cay.-R. 1947); Cay.-R. 1947; R., 1948.
- \*DORIS SPIESS. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1936; etc.
- DORIS SPIESS. TB - E - R6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; ((SPRING MAID) x (RAMESES x EROS.): Lap. Sdlg.) x Wakarusa); ☐ sl.
- DREAMART. TB-E-R4L (Palmer N.); R., 1948; (D-Hall #4205 x SPINDRIFT); ☐.
- DREAMCASTLE. Etc.; (Cook 1943); etc.; A.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:4. July 1948.
- DREAM DAY. TB-M-R7L (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; (PINK ADVANCE x CARIBBEAN TREASURE); #1/S68.
- DRESDEN LADY. TB-M-R4L (Sapp. N.); R., 1948; (GOLDEN EAGLE x Hall-D. flamingo Pi #43-18).
- DUCHESS OF EDINBURGH. TB-M-W6D (Aylett N.); R., 1948; (LAGOS x FAIR ELAINE).
- DUKE DELIGHT. TB-M-B3L rev. (Duquaine N.); R., 1948; (KINGLET x TENEBRAE); ☐ none.
- DUKE OF EDINBURGH. TB-M-S3D (Aylett N.); R., 1948; (V FOR VICTORY x NARANJA); ☐ w.r.
- DUSKY NIGHT. TB-M-B1D (Whiting N.); R., 1948; ((MISSOURI x MATA HARI) x (SABLE)); #4323; ☐ wine.
- EARLY ARRIVAL. TB-EM-W9M (Dozier N.); R., 1948; (AMIGO x WABASH); #47-28.

- EASTER DAWN. TB-EM-S9L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; ((MAY DAY x PRAIRIE SUNSET) x (Pi Bl. Sdlg.)): D-Hall Sdls); ☐ sl.
- EASTER GREETINGS. TB-E-WW (Miess N.); R., 1948; (BERKLEY BLUE x WINTER CARNIVAL); #73B; ☐.
- EASTER ORCHID. TB-M-R7L (Essig N.); R., 1948; (fr breeding involving Miss WILLMOTT, SHERBERT, CALIFORNIA BLUE, PURISSIMA, NEW ALBION, W. R. DYKES and Miss CALIFORNIA); #1882-44-A
- \*EBONY EVE. Etc.; (Nes. N.); R., 1939; etc.
- EBONY EVE. TB-M-La-B1D (Nes. N.); R., 1948; #345-55A; ☐ sl.
- EBONY QUEEN. TB-M-La-B7D (Sass Bros. 1947); Maple Road 1947; R., 1948; ((BLACK WINGS x THE BLACK DOUGLAS) x (SABLE)); #45-31; H.M., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. 106:126; July 1947; ☐ sl.
- EBONY SHEEN. TB-M-B1D (DeForest N.); R., 1948; ((HER GRACE Sdlg.) x (SABLE)); ☐.
- ED A. TB-M-W5M (Loth. 1947); R., 1947; (parentage unknown); omitted from 1947 list.
- \*EGERIA. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1937; etc.
- EGERIA. TB-M-R4L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (BROWN TURBAN x Loomis' #TQ71); ☐ sl.
- EGYPTIAN BUFF. TB-M-R4L (Fay N.); R., 1948; (((RAMSES x FAR WEST): PiBl Fay #41-40) x (Hall-D. #42-20 Pi)): Fay Y #44-7) x (PINK CAMEO); #46-13; ☐ none.
- EILEEN. TB-M-La-B1L (Wilson-D. N.); R., 1948; (GREAT LAKES x —); ☐ str.
- EL ALAMEIN. TB-M-S9M (Ryle N.); R., 1948; (APRICOT x JEAN CAYEUX):
- ELATION. TB-La-M-W2D (Steinmetz N.); R., 1948; (EL CAPITAN x BUTO); ☐ M.
- \*ELERIA. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1934; etc.
- ELERIA. TB-M-R9L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (SHIRA x HOOSIER SUNRISE); ☐ sl.
- ELSALAIN. TB-M-La-Y4D (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948; (FAIR ELAINE x ELSA SASS); ☐ none.
- ELSIE IB-E-WW (Drewett N.); R., 1948; (MOONBEAM x SENLAC); ☐ str.
- \*EMBERGLOW. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1940; etc.
- EMBERGLOW. TB-M-La-R6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (SHIRA x HOOSIER SUNRISE); ☐ none.
- EMERALD ISLE. Dut-M-Y3D rev (Walker N.); R., 1948; #D-1-47—; H.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. 106:128. July 1947.
- E. M. GISSING. TMB-M-B1L (Aylett 1941); R., 1948; (PURISSIMA x GRACE MOHR); ☐ w. plum.
- ENDEAVOUR. TB-M-B3M (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; ((MAGNOLIA) x ((LAGOS) x (LADY MORVYTH x RANGATIRA))) x ((LAGOS) x (LADY MORVYTH x RANGATIRA)); #1/U80.
- ERRATA. Fantasia. TB-(Cay. N.); is correct and not FANTASIA, as given in A.I.S. Bull. 108:137, Jan. 1948.
- ESTATE. TB-M-WW. (Benson-C.W. N.); R., 1948; (BIRCHBARK x BRUNO).



- ETUDE. TB-MLa-R4L (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (MATULA x MIDWEST GEM) x VEISHEA); #4375; ☐ r.
- EVELYN BYNG. TB-M-B7L (Stern N.); R., 1948; selected for Trial at Wisley 1946.
- Everglow.** A.I.S. Bull. **107**:18 Oct. 1947: EVENGLOW.
- EXALTED RULER. TB-E-R7L (Barnewitz N.); R., 1948; (SUMMER DAY x FRIEDA MOHR); ☐ lilac.
- FAIRDAY. TB-M-W6L (McKee N.); R., 1948; ((MIOBELLE x MISTY ROSE) x (RED GLEAM x MARY VERNON)); ☐ sl.
- FAIRIES DANCE. TB-M-W8M (Wolfe-W.G. N.); R., 1948; (IMPERIAL BLUSH x Sdlg.); #4606; ☐ sl.
- FAIRY FOAM. TB-E-MLa-W4 (Mit. 1948); Craig-T. 1948; R., 1948; (Sdlg. x Sdlg. of plicata lines); ☐ pl.; H.M., A.I.S. 1948; Bull. **110**:5; 1948. July 1948.
- FAIRY GEM. TB-La-W6D (McKee N.); R., 1948; (MIOBELLE x MISTY ROSE) x (RED GLEAM x MARY VERNON); #47-17; ☐ sl.; H.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. **106**:128. July 1947.
- FAIRY GOWN. TB-M-W3L (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; (((SNOWKING) x ((LAGOS) x (LADY MORVYTH x RANGATIRA))) x ((WABASH) x ((GUDRUN) x (LADY MORVYTH x RANGATIRA)))); #3/U83.
- FAIRY LIGHT. Spur-W6D (Thorup N.); R., 1948; (SHELFORD GIANT x Y Spur); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:5. July 1948.
- FAR EAST. TB-M-Y9D (Dozier N.); R., 1948; (SHAH JEHAN x DEPUTE NOMBLOT); #47-32.
- FERDINAND. TB-M-R4M (McKee N.); R., 1948; (RED GLEAM x MARY VERNON) x (MARY VERNON); #46-00; H.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. **106**:128. July 1947.
- FERNANDO. TB-M-R7M (Tyler - G. 1941); Tyler - C. 1941; R., 1948; (VIOLET CROWN x —); Lyon 1947.
- FIRE OPAL. TB-MLa-S9L (Lyell N.); R., 1948; (AMITOLA x GOLDEN TREASURE); #42-40-4; ☐ M.
- FLAME THROWER. TB-MLa-R4M (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (PRAIRIE SUNSET x BURMESE GOLD); #4614; ☐ sp.
- FLAMING SUNRISE. TB-MLa-R6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ALBERT GERSDORFF x MAYLINA, R. 1946); ☐ sw.
- FLOREA. Etc.; (Loth. ); H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:5. July 1948.
- \*FLORENCE LEONARDI. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1938; etc.
- FLORENCE LEONARDI. TB-MLa-R6D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ALBERT GERSDORFF x MAYLINA, R., 1946); ☐ sl.
- FONTANA. TB-M-Y6L rev. (Heller N.); R., 1948; (Y. Sdlg x OREGON SUNSHINE); #26-5-23.
- FRANCES KENT. TB-M-R1L (DeForest N.); R., 1948; (fr. Pi Sdls.); ☐.

FRISCOETTE. TB - M - W2M  
(Hillson N.); R., 1948; (MAMIE x SAN FRANCISCO); ☐ pl.;  
A.I.S. Bull. **107**:35. Oct. 1947.

FRONTIER. TB-M-R4D (Fass  
N.); R., 1948; ((#4430: ((  
#42-6: (DAUNTLESS x FRAN-  
CHEVILLE)) x (CHERRIO))) x  
(RADIANT).

FROST GLINT. TB-MLa-W1  
(Whiting N.); R., 1948; (VA-  
TICAN PURPLE x WEST POINT);  
#4316; ☐ sl. gr.

FUN. TB-EM-LaM-W4 (Peck-  
ham N.); R., 1948 (ENTICE-  
MENT x VENUS DE MILO);  
#39-16-43.

FUNFAIR. TB-M-S9M (Mur.  
1949); Orp. 1949; R., 1948;  
(parentage unknown).

GALA FINALE. TB-M-La-Y8D  
(DeForest N.); R., 1948; (VIS-  
ION OF MIRZA x FIRECRACKER).

GALLOPING GAELS. TB-La-  
Y9M (Barnewitz N.); R.,  
1948; (SUMMER DAY x EVO-  
LUTION); ☐ sp.

GARDEN QUEEN. TB-M-La-  
W1 (Miess N.); R., 1948;  
(SNOW FLURRY x GREAT  
LAKES); #423A; ☐.

GARNET FLAME. TB-M-  
R4M (DeForest N.); R., 1948;  
(CASA MORENA x JASPER  
AGATE).

GAY BORDER. TB-M-W8D  
(DeForest 1948); R., 1948;  
(TIFFANJA x sister of Patrice).

GAY CAVALIER. TB-La-R3D  
(Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948;  
(DARK KNIGHT x WINSTON  
CHURCHILL); #1/Q85.

GAY GLITTERS. TB-ME-Y4D  
(Raboin-M. N.); R., 1948;  
(GOLDEN HIND x SUN HAWK);  
☐ sp.

GAY SPIRIT. TB - M - Y7M  
(Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948;  
(MAY DAY x AUTUMN SPLEN-  
DOUR); #2/T121.

GENERAL IKE. TB-M-Y8M  
(Palmer N.); R., 1948; (GOL-  
DEN HIND x NARANJA); ☐ sl.

GENTIAN. TB-M-B1L (Tomp-  
kins N.); R., 1948; ((NARAIN  
x BLUE ZENITH) x (BLUE  
RHYTHM)); ☐ clove pink.

GILLYFLOWER. TB-M-R9D  
(Mur. N.); R., 1948; ((TORCH-  
LIGHT x RADIANT) x (HESTER  
PRYNNE x GOLDEN HIND)).

GLADYS MONCRIEF. TB-M-  
Y3L (Aylett 1944); R., 1948;  
(OREGON SUNSHINE x GOLDEN  
HIND); ☐ M.

\*GLOWING SUNSET. Etc.; (Gers.  
N.); R., 1940; etc.

GLOWING SUNSET. TB-La-  
R6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948;  
(MRS. GARRET O. MOORE x  
KNIGHT WARRIOR, R., 1945);  
☐ lo.

GLOXINIA. TB - MLa - W3M  
(Tompkins N.); R., 1948;  
((DOROTHY DIETZ x WABASH)  
x (SOLILOQUY)); ☐ sl.

GOLD BROCADE. TB-M-Y4D  
(Heller N.); R., 1948; (GOL-  
DEN MAJESTY x RADIANT).

GOLDEN ACE. TB - M - Y4M  
(Ulrich N.); R., 1948; (SUN-  
GOLD x NARANJA).

GOLDEN CRYSTAL. TB-M-  
Y4D (Steinmetz N.); R., 1948;  
((GOLDEN HIND) x (RAMESES  
x PRESIDENT PILKINGTON));  
☐ sl.

GOLDEN GYPSY. TB-M-Y9D  
(Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948;  
(GOLDEN AGE x GYPSY).

GOLDEN IVORY. TB-E-Y6M  
rev. (Miess N.); R., 1948;  
(CALIFORNIA PEACH x ME-  
LITZA); #63B; ☐ sl.



- GOLDEN SANDS. TB-M-S4L (Lyell N.); R., 1948; (KEEP 'EM FLYING x AMITOLA); #42-11-3; ☐ pl.
- GOLDEN SCEPTRE. Spur-M-S4L (Wash. N.); R., 1948.
- GOLDEN SUEDE. TB-LaM-Y4D (Steinmetz N.); R., 1948; (JEAN CAYEUX x HAPPY DAYS); ☐ sl.
- GOLDIE PAPPE. TB-MLa-Y6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ARCATA x Loomis' SQ-70); ☐ none.
- GOLD NUGGET. TB-M-Y4D (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (OLA KALA x ROCKET); #4618; ☐ plum.
- GOLD RUFFLES. Etc.; (Muhl. 1947); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:5. July 1948.
- GOLD SPOT. TB-M-Y7M (Lyell N.); R., 1948; (POT O' GOLD x ORLOFF); #44-27; ☐ M.
- GOLD WINGS. TB-M-Y4D (Heller N.); R., 1948; ((GOLDEN MAJESTY) x (NARANJA x MING YELLOW)); #135-3-3.
- GOVERNOR NAVARRO. TB-La-S4M (Taylor-W.E. 1948); Amity 1948; R., 1948; (JEAN CAYEUX x COPPER LUSTRE); ☐ v. sl.
- GRACE'S GRACE. TB-E-B1M (Gray-S.H. N.); R., 1948; (SHINING WATERS x EARLY MASS).
- GRACY FIELDS. TB-M-R7D (Aylett 1944); R., 1948; (THE RED DOUGLAS x ELLA WINCHESTER); ☐ none.
- GREEN GLOW. Etc.; (Muhl.); H.C., A.I.S., 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:5. July 1948.
- GREIG LAPHAM. Etc.; (Gage 1948); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:4. July 1948.
- GRETNA. Etc.; (Debaillon: Dormon 1942); etc.; (corr. Bull. 92:61. Feb. 1944).
- GYPSY CLASSIC. TB-M-S4M (DeForest N.); R., 1948; ((NIGHTINGALE) x (Br Sdlg fr: (PRAIRIE SUNSET x TOBACCO ROAD))).
- GYPSY INTRIGUE. TB-LaM-S9D (Steinmetz N.); R., 1948; (COPPER LUSTRE x JEAN CAYEUX); ☐ sl.
- GYPSY LASS. TB-EM-S9L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ARCATA x Loomis' SQ70); ☐ lo.
- HALIDOM. TB-L a M - B 1 M (Peckham N.); R., 1948; (TIMAGAMI x self); #42-63-1.
- HANDSOME STRANGER. TB-La-R6D (Gates N.); R., 1948; (parentage unknown); ☐.
- HAPPY LANDING. TB-MLa-S4L (Lyell N.); R., 1948; (KEEP 'EM FLYING x HAPPY DAYS); #42-115; ☐ pl.
- HAPPY MAID. TB-E-M-B1L (Heller N.); R., 1948; (HAPPY DAYS x CHINA MAID).
- HAPPY VALLEY. TB-E-R1M (Miess N.); R., 1948; (MOUNTAIN SKY x NARAIN); #56A; ☐.
- HAREM QUEEN. TB-M-S9D (Dozier N.); R., 1948; (LIGHTHOUSE x WABASH).
- HEATHERBLOOM. DB-M-La-R4M (Marx N.); R., 1948; (parentage unknown); ☐ str.
- H. E. GISSING. TB-M-WW (Aylett 1941); R., 1948; (PURISSIMA x EASTER MORN); A.I.S. Bull. 85:28. April 1942; ☐ plum.
- HEIGHO. TMB-E-La-B7M (Craig-T.); R., 1948; (PURISSIMA x CAPITOLA); ☐ sw.

- HELEN FITZGERALD. TB-M-B7M (Thorup N.); R., 1948; ((PURISSIMA x WASATCH) x (W. Sdlg.)); #44-1; H.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. **106**:128; July 1947.
- HELEN MCGREGOR. Etc.; (Graves 1946); etc.; A.M., A.I.S. 1948; Bull. **110**:4. July 1948.
- \*HERITAGE. Etc.; (Hall-D. N.); R., 1945; etc.
- HERITAGE. TB-E-R4M (Hall-D. N.); R., 1948; (#44-29 x COURTIER); ☐ sl.; #46-16; H.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. **106**:128. July 1947.
- HI TIME. TB-M-R4L (Hall-D. N.); R., 1948; (#42-07, flamingo pi Sdlg. x PREMIER PEACH); #46-10; ☐ v. sl.
- HOMACHITTO. Etc.; (Debailon; Dormon 1942); Etc.; (Corr. Bull. **92**:62. Feb. 1944). 1944).
- HOMESPUN. TB-M-B2M (Cave N.); R., 1948; ((ALINE x LOS ANGELES) x (BENTON FAUSTUS)).
- HONEYMOHR. TMB-EM-R1L (Lewis-C. N.); R., 1948; (RED VALOR x ORMOHR).
- HONOR GUEST. TB-EM-W9D (Dozier N.); R., 1948; (AMIGO x WABASH); #47-26.
- HOOGIE BOY. TMB-E-B1L (Muhl. N.); R., 1948; ((hoo-giana) x (GENEVIEVE SEROUGE x SALUTATION)); #47-1.
- \*HUGH MERCER. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1937; etc.
- HUGH MERCER. TB-LaM-B1L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (SHINING WATERS x BLUE PRELUDE); ☐ sw.
- IDA MCAULIFEE. TB-M-R6D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; ((SPRING MAID) x (RAMESES x EROS) : Lap. Sdlg.) x (WAKARASA); ☐ sl. . . . .
- \*IDE CAMMERER. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., R., 1937; etc.
- IDE CAMMERER. TB-M-R9D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ALBERT GERSDORFF x BERTHA DOROTHEA, R., 1946); ☐ sl.
- IMPUDENCE. TB-M-Y8D (Cave N.); R., 1948; (TIFFANY x Morris Y Plic.); selected for Trial at Wisley, June 1948.
- INDIAN NATION. TB-M-S4D (DeForest 1948); R., 1948; (CASA MORENA x COPPER RIVER).
- \*INEZ MARIE. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1935; etc.
- INEZ MARIE. TB-EM-R6L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (BROWN TURBAN x Loomis' #TQ71); ☐ lo.
- IRIS CHARM. TB-M-B1M (DeForest N.); R., 1948; (SNOW FLURRY x LAKE SHANNON).
- ISKA. TB-EM-R6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ALBERT GERSDORFF x BERTHA DOROTHEA, R., 1946); ☐ sl.
- ISLAMABAD. TB-M-Y8M (White-C.G. 1949); Millik. Gard. 1949; R., 1948; (fr a line of unregistered sdls.).
- IVORY PRINCESS. TB-M-La-W4L (Whiting N.); R., 1948; ((PUKRISSIMA x MATULA) x (WHITE GODDESS)); #4356; ☐ ho.
- JACAMER. TB-M-R6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; ((SPRING MAID) x (RAMESSES x EROS)) : Lap. Sdlg.) x (WAKARUSA); ☐ sw. lo.



- JACOLA. TB-MLa-R9M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (FRANK ADAMS x Loomis' #SQ70); ☐ sl.
- \*JAMES CALDWELL. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1937; etc.
- JAMES CALDWELL. TB-EM-R9M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ALBERT GERSDORFF x BERTHA DOROTHEA, R., 1946)). ☐ sl.
- JANE McINTIRE. TB-M-S6M (McClanahan N.); R., 1948; (MATULA x McClanahan Buff Sdlg.); ☐ sl.
- JEAN NESBETT. TB-M-Y4L (Aylett 1944); R., 1948; (OREGON SUNSHINE x GOLDEN HIND).
- JERICO. TB-M-S4M (McKee N.); R., 1948; ((MIOBELLE x MISTY ROSE) x (MOONTIDE)); ☐ none.
- JEUNE FILLE. Etc.; (Debailon; Dormon 1942); etc.; (corr. Bull. **92**:63. Feb. 1944).
- JOSEPH'S MANTLE. TB-E&La-Y8D (Craig-T. N.); R., 1948; (CHINA MAID x TIFFANY) x (Mit. Sdlg.: (((SEDUCTION) x ((Mit. #1-115) x ((SHERBERT x YBl.) x (ALCAZAR x ESPLENDIDO) ) ) ) x BRONZE BEACON x SAN FRANCISCO) ) ) ); ☐ fruity.
- JUNE APPEL. TB-M-R7L (Bech. N.); R., 1948; ((QUEEN ALETA) x ((LOTOWANA) x (CHINA MAID x MOROCCO ROSE) ) ).
- KEENE VALLEY. TB-M-B1L Smith-K. N.); R., 1948; (LAKE GEORGE x GREAT LAKES); ☐ sl.
- KEEWAYDIN. TB-M-Y8M (Corry N.); R., 1948; (SEDUCTION x TIFFANY); #85H; H.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. **106**:128. July 1947.
- Kestrel. Sib.-B1M (Wal. 1946); Wal. 1946;
- KEZAR LAKE. TB-M-B1M (Knowlton N.); R., 1948; (GREAT LAKES x EASTER MORN); #45-4; ☐ Str.; A.I.S. Bull. **107**:58. Oct. 1947; H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. **110**:5. July 1948.
- KING BEE. TB-La-R4M (McKee N.); R., 1948; ((MIOBELLE x MISTY ROSE) x (RED GLEAM x MARY VERNON) ); #47-11; ☐ sl.; H.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. **106**:128. July 1947.
- KING COTTON. TB-EM-WW (Bech. N.); R., 1948; (Sdlg. x WHITE GODDESS); ☐ al.
- KING GEO. VI. (Aylett N.); app. pending 1948.
- KING KALAKAUA. TB-M-Y9-M (Nels.-E.P. N.); R., 1948; (parentage unknown); ☐ none.
- KOREA. TB-La-R4D (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (ARAB CHIEF x CEDAR ROSE); #4660; ☐ ho.
- KORSABAD. TB-M-R9D (Cay.-R. 1947); Cay.-R. 1947; R., 1948.
- LADAK. TB-M-B1D (White-C. G. N.); R., 1948 (parentage missing); #1-47-19; H.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. **106**:128. July 1947.
- LADDIE. TB-La-B9M (Miess N.); R., 1948; (MISSOURI x GREAT LAKES); #503A; ☐.
- LADY BOSCAWEN. Etc.; (Graves 1946); etc.; A.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. **110**:4. July 1948.
- LADY BUFF. TB-VLa-Y7D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (NED LEFEVRE x MELITZA); ☐ none.

- LADY MOON. TB-M-WW. (Whiting N.); R., 1948; ((PURISSIMA x MATULA) x (WHITE GODDESS)); #4337; ☐ lo.
- LADY OF THE LAKE. TB-M-B1L (Wright-C.A. N.); R., 1948; (GUDRUN x —).
- LAKE TENAYA. TB-M-B1M (Miess N.); R., 1948; (MOUNTAIN SKY x GREAT LAKES); #535A; ☐.
- \*LA NANCE. Etc.; (White-A. N.); R., 1941; etc.
- LAUREL Hill. TMB-La-R7L (Plough N.); R., 1948; ((WILLIAM MOHR) x ((ESPLENDIDO x BRUNO): Brehm two-toned red Sdlg.).
- LEGACY. TB-M-R7M (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948 (ORLOFF) x (Maxwell Sdlg.: COPPER LUSTRE x PRAIRIE SUNSET).
- LEMON CREAM. TB-E-Y1M (Gers. N.); R., 1948 (BROWN TURBAN x Loomis' TQ71); ☐ sl.
- LEMON CREPE. TB-EM-Y4L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (BROWN TURBAN x Loomis' TQ71); ☐ lo.
- LEVENS. TB-M-Y3M (Christie-D. N.); R., 1948.
- LILAC ARBOR. TB-M-R1L (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; ((MARCO POLO x INSPIRATION) x (PINK ADVANCE)) x ((INSPIRATION) x ((LAGOS) x (LADY MORVYTH x RANGATIRA))); #4/U56.
- LILAC LANE. Etc.; (Whiting 1947); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:5. July 1948.
- LITTLE ELSA. Etc.: (Muhl. 1948); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:5. July 1948.
- LITTLE HONEY. Etc.; (White-A. N.); R., 1941; etc.; \$.
- LITTLE QUEER. IB-M-S3L (Palmer N.); R., 1948; (parents unknown); ☐ none.
- LITTLE SKIPPER. DB-E-M-S3M (Marx N.); R., 1948; (AZUREA x PUCK); ☐.
- LOCH LOMOND. TB-M-B1M (Lowry N.); R., 1948; (MOUNTAIN SKY x GREAT LAKES); #L5-9; H.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. 106:128 July 1947.
- LORD GOWRIE. TB-M-R7M (Aylett 1939); R., 1948; (MRS. VALERIE WEST x KING TUT); ☐ r.
- LOUIS WHEELER. TB-M-R4L (Aylett 1943); R., 1948; (CHINA MAID x Sdlg. of ROSY WINGS); ☐ none.
- LOVELACE. TB-La-W8L (Mit. 1948); Craig-T. 1948; R., 1948; (Sdlg. Plic. x Sdlg. Plic.); #O-126-2; ☐ none; H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:4. July 1948.
- LOVE STORY. TB-M-R4L (Sapp N.); R., 1948; (GOLDEN EAGLE x D. Hall #43-18); ☐ lilac.
- LUCKY STRIKE. TB-M-S9M (Walker N.); R., 1948; (parentage unknown); #14-46; H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:5. July 1948.
- LUCYBELLE. TB-EM-Y4L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (BROWN TURBAN x Loomis' #TQ71); ☐ lin.
- LURA. TB-M-R4L (DeForest N.); R., 1948; (fr Pi Sdls.).
- MAGIC FLAME. TB-E-S7D (Miess N.); R., 1948; (BETSY ROES x MATUIA); #494B.



- MAGNOLIA P E T A L. Etc.; (Debaillon; Dormon 1942); etc.; (corr. Bull 92:65. Feb. 1944).
- MAJESTIC PURPLE. TB-La-R1D (Smith-E.H. N.); R., 1948; (BRUNHILDE x —); ☐ sl.
- MAJESTIC ROBE. TB-M-B7D (Palmer N.); R., 1948; (WILLIAM A. SETCHELL x BLUE MONARCH); ☐.
- MANOAH. TB-M-B1D (Loth. 1947); Loth. 1947; R., 1947; (IOLITE x BLUE DUSK); omission from 1947 list.
- MANOU. TB-M-Y3L (Cay.-R. 1947); Cay.-R. 1947; R., 1948.
- MANYANA. TB - MLa - R4L (Tompkins N.); R., 1948; (SPINDRIFT x BRYCE CANYON); ☐ none.
- MAPLE SUGAR. TB-MLa-S4L (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (((MARISHA x AMITOLA) x (CHINA MAID) x (HARVEST MOON))); #4363; ☐ ho.
- MARATHON. TB - M - Y7M (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (MELLOWGLOW x CEDAR ROSE); #4314; ☐ sp.
- MARBLE TREASURE. Jap-La - Dbl - B7D (Roberts-Mrs. N.); R., 1948.
- MARCELLE CHERRY. TB-M-La-Y4M (Gage N.); R., 1948; (CREMILDA x GOLDEN HIND); ☐.
- MARIAN LINDSAY. TB-M-S4L (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948; (DAWN RAY x GRACE BALLARD).
- \*MARRAKESH. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1937; etc.
- MARRAKESH. TB - La - Y9M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (JEB STUART x FRANK ADAMS); ☐ none.
- \*MARSALA. Etc.; (DeForest N.); R., 1947; etc.
- MARSALA. TB-M-S9M (DeForest 1948); R., 1948; (SPINDRIFT x Pi Sdlg.).
- MARTINI. TB - EM - Y1L (Smith-K. N.); R., 1948; (CASCADE x SALLY ANN).
- MARY DUNLOP. TB-M-R6D (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948; (MATULA x MATULA).
- MAUD AVES. TB - M - Y4M (Herbert-W.I. N.); R., 1948; (GOLDEN HIND x Sdlg.); ☐ sl.
- MAY CHARM. TB-MLa-R7L (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (MIRABELLE x ANGELUS); #4259; ☐ lo.
- MAYTIME. TB-M-R4L (Whiting N.); R., 1947; (SHANNOPIN x PATHFINDER); #464. ☐ lilac; **Appleblossom Time** (Whiting); A.I.S. Bull. 108: 131. Jan. 1948.
- MEADOW SWEET. TB-M-S7L (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (JONQUIL x GILT EDGE); #4220; ☐ lo.
- MELODIC GOLD. TB-M-Y4D (Miess N.); R., 1948; (PRAIRIE SUNSET x FORTUNE'S FAVOUR); #547B; ☐ sl.
- M. E. WOOD. TB-M-Y6D (Aylett N.); R., 1948; (COPPER LUSTRE x NARANJA).
- MEXICAN FIESTA. TB-La-R6M (Lyell N.); R., 1948; (BROWN THRASHER x PRAIRIE SUNSET); #46-18; ☐ M.
- \*MILDRED WRIGHT. Etc. (Gers. N.); R., 1939; etc.
- \*MILDRED WRIGHT. TB-EM-R9D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ALBERT GERSDORFF x BERTHA DOROTHEA, R., 1946); ☐ sw.
- MIRROR LAKE. Etc.; (Muhl. 1947); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:5. July 1948.

- MISS HANNAH. TB-M-Y4M (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948; ((#W39141 : ((#W4351 : (PURISSIMA x MATULA) x (WHITE G O D D E S S)) x (#W4246)).
- MISSOURI WALTZ. TB-M-B1M (Gates N.); R., 1948; (GRACE STURTEVANT x SAN DIEGO); ☐.
- MISS PENNY. TB-M-R6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (SHIRA x HOOSIER SUNRISE); ☐ sw.
- MISTY SUNRISE. TB-MLa-R9L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ARCATA x MELITZA); ☐ sl.
- Mitchie. Thought likely to be and unnamed Mit. Sdlg. in Gard. Tom Craig; C.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. **106**:128. July 1947.
- MOLLY. TB-M-R1M (Cave N.); R., 1948; (CHINA MAID x MOROCCO ROSE) x (Sister Sdlg.); Selected for Trial at Wisley, June 1948.
- MONTAIGNE. TB-M-R9D (Cay.-R. 1947); Cay.-R. 1947; R., 1948.
- MOONLIGHT DREAM. TB-E-W4 (Stanley-L. 1948); Glad-A-Way 1948; R., 1948; (Miss WILLMOTT x *mesopotamica*).
- \*MOORISH PRINCE. Etc. (Gers. N.); R., 1934; etc.
- MOORISH PRINCE. TB-M-S9D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ALBERT GERSDORFF x BERTHA DOROTHEA, R., 1946); ☐ v. sl.
- MORNING. TB-LaM-Y3L (Faught N.); R., 1948; (Sdlg. x SPUN GOLD).
- MORNING MELODY. TB-M-R7L (Bech. 1948); Schreiner 1948; R., 1948; (CHINA MAID x MOROCCO ROSE).
- MRS. ALICE HERBERT. TB-M-Y4D (Herbert-W.I. N.); R., 1948; (GOLDEN HIND) x (Helios (Cay.) x W. R. Dykes); ☐ sl.
- MRS. FLOYD HARRIS. TB-M-B1M (Benners N.); R., 1948; (CRUSADER x —).
- MUIR GLACIER. TB-EE-VLa-W1 (Heller N.); R., 1948.
- MULBERRY LURE. TB-E-B7M (Duquaine N.); R., 1948; (ELMER x PINK IMPERIAL); ☐ le.
- MYRRH. TB-M-Y4L (Loth. N.); R., 1947; (BROWN BETTY x Miss SALLY) x (FORT KNOX). (omitted from 1947 report).
- NARUNA. TB-EM-R6M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (EVENING SKIES x MAYLINA, R., 1946); ☐ sl.
- NATALIE BLAISDELL. TB-La-Y4L (Tobie N.); R., 1948; ☐ sw.
- NEBRASKA ROSE. TB-MLa-S9M (Lyell N.); R., 1948; (AMITOLA x GOLDEN TREASURE); #42-40; ☐ del.
- NECHO. TB-M-R1D (Loth. 1947); Loth. 1947; R., 1947; (ESTEBAN x MODOC); omitted fr 1947 list.
- NEW ORLEANS. Etc. (Debaillon; Dormon 1942); etc.; (corr. Bull. **92**:67. Feb. 1944).
- NEW SNOW. Etc.; (Fay 1946); etc.; A.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:4. July 1948.
- NICHOLAS BIDDLE. TB-M-R6D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (JEB STUART x FRANK ADAMS); ☐ sw. fruity.
- NIGHT N'DAY. TB-M-W3D (DeForest N.); R., 1948;



(EXTRAVAGANZA x THREE SISTERS Sdlg.).  
 NINE HEARTHS. TB-La-WW (Rawlins N.); R., 1948; (GREAT LAKES x GLORIOLE).  
 NOON BLAZE. TB-M-Y7M (DeForest N.); R., 1948; (NARANJA Sdlg. x TOBACCO ROAD).  
 NORTHLAND PINK LADY. TB-E-R7L (Duquaine N.); R., 1948; (parentage unknown); ☐ cl.  
 NORTHLAND VIOLET. TB-M-B1M (Duquaine N.); R., 1948; (MATTERHORN x ESTELLA); ☐ vi.  
 NYANA. TB-M-La-R6D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (MRS. GARRET O. MOORE x KNIGHT WARRIOR, R., 1945); ☐ sl. sw.

**Octobie.** OKTOHBI. A.I.S. Bull. **107**:52. Oct. 1947.

ODETTE. TB-M-WW (Chapman-L. N.); R., 1948; (PURISSIMA x —); ☐ sl.

OLA KALA. Etc.; (Sass - J. 1943); etc.; Dykes Medal, A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:3. July 1948.

ON GUARD. Etc.; (Carpenter); H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:6. July 1948.

OPAL LUSTRE. TB-M-R7L (Lyell N.); R., 1948; (AMITOLA x CHINA MAID); #42-39; ☐ M.

ORANGE AGE. TB-M-R6L (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948; (ORANGE FLARE x NARANJA Sdlg.).

ORANGE DROPS. TB-M-Y5L (Aylett 1942); R., 1948; (DOLLY WALKER x TIFFANY); ☐ none.

ORANGE GEM. TB-M-Y7D (McKee 1948); McKee Gard.

1948; R., 1948; (RED GLEAM x MARY VERNON) x (MOON-TIDE); ☐ sl.; H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:4. July 1948.

ORCHID SPRITE. Etc.; (Nies 1946); A.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:4. July 1948.

ORELIO. Etc.; (DeForest 1947); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:5. July 1948.

ORIENTAL BAZAR. Etc.; (Buniaux 1948); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:5. July 1948.

ORIENTAL PEACH. TB-M-S9D (Miess N.); R., 1948; (RED AMBER x FORTUNE'S FAVOR); #378B; ☐ R., 1945; etc.

\*ORO GRANDE. Etc.; (Heller N.);

OURANIA. TB-La-Y3L (Herbert-W.I. N.); R., 1948; (Helios (Cay.) x W. R. DYKES); ☐ sl.

Pacha. TB-La-S9M (Cay.-R., 1947); Cay.-R., 1947.

PAGAN PRINCESS. TB-M-R9M (Douglas-G 1948); Fair. 1948; R., 1948; ((PINK CAMEO) x ((#40-10 x MELITZA) x (FLORA ZENOR))); #706 E; ☐; H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:5; July 1948.

PAKISTAN. TB-M-R6M (Mur. 1948); Orp. 1948; R., 1948; (TORCHLIGHT x RADIANT).

PARACHUTE. Etc.; (Loomis); H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. **110**:6. July 1948.

PARIAN. TB-M-WW (Walker N.); R., 1948; (GIDEON x PRESIDENT PILKINGTON); #22-46; H.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. Bull. **106**:128. July 1947.

PASTEL PORTRAIT. TB-M-S7L (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (MATULA x CHINA MAID); #4133; ☐ r.

PATHFINDER. TB-M-La-R4L (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (MIRABELLE x ANGELUS); #4240; ☐ ho. H.M., A.I.S. 1948; Bull. 110:5; July 1948.

PATRICIA JOYCE. TB-E-Y4L (Maudlin N.); R., 1948; (PURISSIMA x —); ☐ v. sl.

PEACH PARFAIT. TB-M-R4L (Craig-T. N.); 1948; (MOUNT WASHINGTON x FLORA ZENOR); ☐ van.

PEARL ORIENTAL. TB-M-La-Y7L (Heller N.); R., 1948; (GRECIAN ROBE x E. B. WILLIAMSON).

PEARLY MORN. TB-M-W1 (Thorup N.); R., 1948; (SNOW FLURRY x W Sdlg.); #47-1.

PECHE. TB-M-R4L (Palmer N.); R., 1948; (D-Hall #4205 x SPINDRIFT); ☐.

PEG DABAGH. TMB-E-B1L (Craig-T. 1948); R., 1948; (PURISSIMA x CAPITOLA); ☐ gr. H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:4. July 1948.

PENN CHARTER. TB-M-La-Y4D (Hall-H. N.); R., 1948; (fr two Y Sdlg.) #Y-53; ☐ sl.

PENNYRILE. TB-E-B1L (Rawlins N.); R., 1948; (GREAT LAKES x GLORIOLE); ☐.

PERIDOT. TB-La-Y3M (Pilk. 1949); Orp. 1949; R., 1948; (PLURABELLE x —).

PERSONALITY. Etc.; (Palmer); H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:6. July 1948.

PERSONALITY. Etc.; (Palmer N.); (corr. Bull. 104:116. Jan. 1947.)

PETITE DB-EE-R1M (Horton N.); R., 1948; (HARBOR LIGHTS x Sdlg.).

PICTURESQUE. TB-La-S9M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; ((SPRING MAID) x (RAMESES x EROS): Lap. Sdlg.) x (WAKARUSA) x (MAY DAY x PRAIRIE SUNSET: Hall D. Sdlg.); ☐ sl.

PIERRE MENARD. Etc.; (Faught 1948); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:4. July 1948.

PINK BROCADE. TB-EM-R3L (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; ((MISS CALIFORNIA) x ((RADIANT MORN x NEW DAWN) x (INSPIRATION))) x (ALTA ROSE Sdlg.); #1/T91.

PINK CAMEO. Etc.; (Fay 1946); A.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:4. July 1948.

PINK CHOICE. TB-M-La-R4L (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (NYLON x Loomis' SQ 72); #479; ☐ sl. lo.

PINK FANTASTIC. Etc.; (Muhl. N.); R., 1947; corr. parentage to read (D-Hall #42-10 x Loomis' SQ72); A.I.S. Bull. 108:146. Jan. 1948.

PINK MATRON. TB-M-R4L (Taylor-C.C. N.); R., 1948; (PINK RUFFLES x PRINCESS OF BRENTWOOD); #421; ☐ sl.

PINK QUEEN. TB-M-R7L (Gates N.); R., 1948; (MIDGARD x DR. CHARLES H. MAYO); ☐.



PINK SALMON. Etc.; (Muhl. N.); R., 1947; corr. parentage to read (SPINDRIFT x GOLDEN EAGLE); A.I.S. Bull. 108:146. Jan. 1948.

PINK SUPERB. TB-E-R4L (Palmer N.); R., 1948; (D-Hall #4205 x Sdlg. involving MIDWEST GEM, LA LORRAINE and REVEILLE); #13-48) □.

PINK TOURMALINE. TB-M-R4L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; ((MME. CHERI x DUSK) x (CHRISTABEL)) x (Loomis' #SQ70); □ lo.

PLACERITA. TB - M - Y7M (Miess N.); R., 1948; (TOBACCO ROAD x MATULA); #356B; □ none.

PLATTE VALLEY GEM. TB-M-B7D (Stump-M. N.); R., 1948; (ORLOFF x MAID OF ASTOLAT); □ v. str. gr.

PLATTE VALLEY QUEEN. TB-La-W2L (Stump-M. N.); R., 1948; (MAID OF ASTOLAT x ORLOFF); □ pl. gr.

PLUM TART. TB - M - S7D (Con. N.); R., 1948; □ sl.

POETRY-IN-PINK. TB-E-R4L (Palmer N.); R., 1948; (Sdlg. involving MIDWEST GEM, LA LORRAINE and REVEILLE) x (D-Hall #4205); #5-48.

POLLY THRALL. TB-M-Y6L rev. (Barker-M.J. N.); R., 1948; (AND THOU x PINK REFLECTION); #46-16; □ sl. le.

POLONADE. Etc.; (Grant); H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:6. July 1948.

POMPEII. TB-M-S7M. (Miess N.); R., 1948; (MEXICO x TOBACCO ROAD); #211B.

PORT OF PROMISE. TB-M-WW (Thorup N.); R., 1948; (N. J. THOMAS x AZTEC COPPER).

\*PRAIRIE PEACH. Etc.; (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1945; etc.

PRAIRIE PEACH. TB-M-R4L (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948; (Lap. Sdlg. : SPINDRIFT x ISABELLINA) x (FLORA ZENOR).

PRETTY QUADROON. TB-M-S4M (Klein. 1948); Cooley 1948; R., 1948; (MEXICO x TOBACCO ROAD); #350A; □; H.M., A.I.S. 1948; Bull. 110:4. July 1948.

PRINCESS ADAIR. TB-ME-S7M (Ryle N.); R., 1948; (TREASURE ISLAND x GUDRUN).

PRINCESS MARGARET ROSE. TB-M-S9M (Aylett N.); R., 1948; (V FOR VICTORY x NARANJA).

PT. MUGU. TB - MLa - B7D (Walker N.); R., 1948; (SAN DIEGO x THE BLACK DOUGLAS); #29-46; C.C., A.I.S. 1947; A.I.S. BULL. 106:128. July 1947; □ v. pl.

PUMA. TB-M-R6M (Heller N.); R., 1948; (MAY DAY x SONNY BOY); #0-2-14.

PURPLE MIST. TB - M - R1L (Dozier N.); R., 1948; (DEEP VELVET x MRS. J. L. GIBSON).

PYROTECHNICS. TB-M-S9M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (BROWN TURBAN x Loomis' TQ-71); □ lo.

QUAHADA. TB-M-R6D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ROYAL COACH x HOOSIER SUNRISE); □ none.

QUECHEE. Etc.; (Knowlton); H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:6. July 1948.

RADIANT ORCHID. Vinic-R 1 M (Debaillon - Dorman N.); R., 1948; Collected near New Orleans, La.

RADIATION. Etc.; (Hall 1948); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.-S. BULL. 110:4. July 1948.

RAYVE. TB-E-Y4L (Palmer N.); R., 1948; (Pi Sdlg. x D-Hall #4205); ☐.

RED GARNET. TB-M-R6D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (CHRISTABEL) x (FRANCESCA x FRANK ADAMS); ☐ sl.

RED IMP. TB-MLa-R9D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (CHRISTABEL) x (FRANCESCA x FRANK ADAMS); ☐ lo.

RED MAJESTY. Etc.; (Douglas-D. 1946); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. Bull. 110:4. July 1948.

RED MESA. TB-M-La-R6D (Heller N.); R., 1948; (ROSE ULTRA x THE RED DOUGLAS).

REFRAIN. TB-EM-R1L (Tompkins N.); R., 1948; (MOON BLOSSOM x LULLABY); ☐ lilac.

REGAL ROBE. TB-M-B3D (Craig-T. 1948); R., 1948; (ACROPOLIS x DESTINY); ☐ SW.

REGIS ROYAL. TB-M-R4D (Marx N.); R., 1948; (GARDEN MAGIC x PRAIRIE SUNSET); ☐ sl.

RELENTLESS. TB-M-R4M (Cook 1948); Long. 1948; R., 1948; (parentage not given); #4442; ☐.

RENDEZVOUS. TB-M-B7D (Tompkins N.); R., 1948; (STORM KING x THE INTRUDER); ☐ some.

RON HORE. TB-M-Y9M (Aylett 1941); R., 1948; (MAZAMA x INSPIRATION); ☐ M.

ROSEMOHR. TMB-MLa-R7M (Lewis-C. N.); R., 1948; (OR-MOHR x RED VALOR).

ROSE OF PARADISE. TB-M-R4M (Nels.-E.P. N.); R., 1948; (CHINA MAID x MONADNOCK); ☐ sl.

ROSES AND WINE. Vinic-R6M (Conger N.); R., 1948; (CONTRAST x CAROLINE DORMON).

ROSE SPLENDOR. Etc.; (Klein. 1947); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.-S. BULL. 110:4. July 1948.

ROSETONE. TB-M-R7M (Roberts-Mrs. N.); R., 1948; (CHINA MAID x AUBANEL); ☐ sl.

ROSIRED. TB-M-La-R7M (Craig-T. N.); R., 1948; (THE RED DOUGLAS x E.B. WILLIAMSON); ☐ lem.

ROSY FUTURE. TB-M-R7D (Heller N.); R., 1948; (THE RED DOUGLAS x CHINA MAID); #11-7-1.

ROSY LIGHT. TB-M-S7M (Dozier N.); R., 1948; (MISS CALIFORNIA x ———).

ROYAL CONSORT. TB-M-B7D (Dozier N.); R., 1948; (CHINA MAID x —); #47-53.

ROYAL CREST. TB-M-B7D (Millik. 1948); Millik. Gard. 1948; R., 1948; ((BUECHLEY GIANT x THE BLACK DOUGLAS) x (SPRING MEADOW)); ☐.

ROYAL ROAD. TB-M-S6D (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; ((CITY OF LINCOLN) x ((RADIANT MORN x NEW DAWN) x (KING MIDAS))) X (AUTUMN SPLENDOR); #1/T20.

ROYAL SOVEREIGN. TB-M-Y7D (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; (GOLDEN MAJESTY) x (NARANJA x REDMAYNE); #1/T93.

RUBY GLOW. Etc.; (Schreiner 1941); A.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.-S. BULL. 110:4. July 1948.



- SALLY'S SUNSHINE. Vinic-Y4D (Smith-S. N.); R., 1948; (KRAEMER YELLOW x —).
- SALMON ELF. TB-M-R4L (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (Sass Brown Sdlg. x RETTA); ☐ sl.
- SALUSKIN. TB-M-R4M (Nelson-E. N.); R., 1948; (MELITZA x FLORA ZENOR); ☐ sl.
- SAN ANTONE. Etc.; (Klein. 1947); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.-S. BULL. 110:5. July 1948.
- SAN MARCOS. TB-M-S9M (Moon-Melva N.); R., 1948; (BLENDED BEAUTY x CHEERIO); ☐ v. del.
- SANTA CLARAN. TB-E-R6D (Barnewitz N.); R., 1948; (MIDWAY x BENICIA LASS); ☐ sp.
- SARAH GOODLOE. Etc.; (Douglas-G. ); H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:6. July 1948.
- SARDONIQUE. TB-M-S3D (Raboin-M. N.); R., 1948; (OSSAR x EL TOVAR); ☐ sp.
- SEAFARER. TB-M-B1M (Buttrick N.); R., 1948; (THE ADMIRAL x GREAT LAKES); ☐ sl.; H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:5. July 1948. #121.
- SEARCHLIGHT. TB-M-Y4D (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; (GOLDEN MAJESTY) x (NARANJA x REDMAYNE); #3/T-93.
- SEASCUD. TB-M-Y3M (Aylett N.); R., 1948; (NARANJA x CALIFORNIA GOLD); ☐ sl.
- SEASON'S GREETING. TB-EE-R7M (Miess N.); R., 1948; (BETSY ROSS x OLD ROSE); #6B; ☐.
- SELAH. TB-M-B1L (Nelson-E. N.); R., 1948; (Thole W Sdlg. x SHOW GIRL); ☐ fair.
- SENEGAL. TB-M-Y9M (Cay.-R. 1947); Cay.-R. 1947; R., 1948.
- SEYMOUR HENRY BATHURST. TB-La-Y9D (Mur. 1948); Orp. 1948; R., 1948; (TORCHLIGHT x OLD SEVILLE).
- SHRINER'S PATROL. TB-M-R6D (Dozier N.); R., 1948; (GOLDEN MAJESTY x CITY OF LINCOLN); #47-94.
- SIERRA MADRE. TB-M-B1D (Storman N.); R., 1948; (BRUNHILDE x DESERT SKIES); ☐ sp.
- SILVER CHARM. TMB-E-B1L (Craig-T. 1948); R., 1948; (PURISSIMA x Ib-Mac); ☐ sl.
- SILVER CLOUD. TB-M-W1 (Whiting N.); R., 1948; ((PURISSIMA x MATULA) x (WHITE GODDESS)); #4331; ☐ sl. lo.
- SILVER FALLS. TB-E-S1L (Barnewitz N.); R., 1948; (MARTHA WHITE x SHINING WATERS); ☐ lilac.
- SILVER LINING. TB-M-B1L (Palmer N.); R., 1948; (BANDMASTER) x (B Sdlg. x GREAT LAKES); ☐ str.
- SILVER WINGS. TB-MLa-WW (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (VATICAN PURPLE x ALBA SUPERBA); ☐ sl. gr.; #4654.
- SKY TINT. TB-M-B1L (Muhl. N.); R., 1948; (SPARKLING FROST x GLORIOLE); #46-28; ☐.
- SMARATI. TB-M-Y4D (Herbert-W. I. N.); R., 1948; (Helios (Cay.) x W.R. DYKES) x (GOLDEN HIND).
- SOLVEG. TB-M-W6M rev. (Johnson-M. N.); R., 1948; (SIEGFRIED x MADAME LOUIS AUREAU).

SOMETHING BLUE. Etc.; (White-A. N.); R., 1948; etc.; \$.

Sonatine. TB-M-R1L (Cay.-R. 1947); Cay.-R. 1947.

SPANISH LADY. TB-La-S6D (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; ((KING JUBA x CLAUDE AU-REAU) x (VELVET ENVOY); # 1/S42.

SPANISH PEAKS. Etc.; (Loomis 1947); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.-S. BULL. 110:4. July 1948.

SPRING GOLD. TB - E - Y4M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; ((( SPRING MAID) x (RAMESES x EROS)) : Lap. Sdlg.) x (WAKARUSA)) x ((MAY DAY x PRAIRIE SUNSET) : D.Hall Sd- lg.); □ sl.

SPRING MAGIC. TB-EM-R7L (Dozier N.); R., 1948; (CHINA MAID x MOROCCO ROSE).

SPRING ROMANCE. TB-EM-W4L (Miess N.); R., 1948; (MELITZA x NARAIN); #551A; □.

SPRING SONNET. TB-M-R4L (DeForest N.); R., 1948; (Loomis' SQ-72 x OVERTURE).

SPRING SUNRISE. TB-MLa-R6D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; ((ADAGIO) x (JEB STUART x FRANK ADAMS)); □ sw.

STANDOUT. TB-M-W9D (Dozier N.); R., 1948; (AMIGO x WABASH); #47-69.

STAR FLAME. TB-M-La-R4M (DeForest 1948); R., 1948; (MARIMBA x COPPER RIVER).

STAR SHINE. Etc.; (Wills); H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:6. July 1948.

STATEN ISLAND. Etc.; (Smith K. 1947); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:4. July 1948.

STELLA STEDMAN. TB-WW (Covert N.); A.I.S. BULL. 107: 32. Oct. 1947.

ST. FELICITE. TB - M - B1L (Meyer-H.R. 1947); Meyer-H.R. 1947; R., 1948; (Sdlg. x PRIESTESS).

ST. FOY. TB-La-R6D (Meyer-H.R. 1948); Meyer-H.R. 1948; R., 1948; (MARY GEDDES x GOLDEN HIND).

ST. HELENA. TB-M-S3L (Pilk. N.); R., 1948; (DEPUTE NOM-BLOT x Y Sdlg.); Selected for Trial at Wisley 1947.

ST. LEONIE. TB-M-S6M rev. (Meyer-H.R. 1948); Meyer-H.R. 1948; R., 1948; (MARY GEDDES x GOLDEN HIND).

STORY TIME. TB-E-M-R9D (Muhl. N.); R., 1948; (THE RED DOUGLAS x Hall-D. #42-10); #46-5; □ r.

STRATHMORE. TB - M - R4L (Morris N.); R., 1948; (EDWARD OF WINDSOR x Hall-D. #V.21); Selected and named by Queen Elizabeth in show of The Iris Society (England), June 1948.

ST. REGIS. Etc.; (Caldwell-W. 1947); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.-S. BULL. 110:5. July 1948.

ST. WANDRILLE. TB-M-R3D (Cay.-R. 1947); Cay.-R. 1947; R., 1948.

SULPHUR CHIFFON. TB - MLa-Y6L rev. (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (JADE MADONNA x FRANK ADAMS); □ sl.

SUMMER GOLD. TB - LaM-Y4M (Ketchum N.); R., 1948; (parentage unknown); □ sl.

SUMMER SONG. TB-M-R4L (Nes. N.); R., 1948; (AZALEA x OVERTURE); # 45-8a; □.



SUMMIT. TB-EM-Y6D (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; (HAPPY DAYS x CALIFORNIA GOLD) x ((LAGOS) x ((GUDRUN) x (LADY MORVYTH x RANGATIRA))) ; #5/T192.

\*SUNBRIGHT. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1937; ets.; omission from BULL. 104:120. Jan. 1947.

SUNDROPS. DB-M-Y4L (Marx N.); R., 1948; (SOUND MONEY x —).

\*SUNRAY. Etc.; (Hall-D. N.); R., 1946; etc.

SUNRAY. TB-M-Y4L (Hall-D. N.); R., 1948; (#41-45 x FLORADORA); □ v. sl.

SUNRISE SHADOWS. TB-LaM-R7M (Faught N.); R., 1948; (Sdlg. 39 E-2 x Sdlg. 12 F).

SUNSET BLAZE. TB-E-R4D (Klein. 1948); Cooley 1948; R., 1948; (Sdlg. #343 x Sdlg. #333A); #363A; □.

SUNSET LANE. TB-M-Y7M (Whiting N.); R., 1948 (VEISHEA x GOLDEN SPIKE); #4372; □ lo.

SUNWINE. TB-M-R9M (Essig N.); R., 1948; (from crosses involving Mrs. HAW, ELDERADO, FIREFALL, ESPLENDIDO, KASHMIR WHITE, ORIFLAMME, CONQUISTADOR, MME. CHERI, MAGNIFICA, SOUV. DE MME. GAUDICHAU, ALCAZAR, SHASTA, GRACE STURTEVANT, HOLLYWOOD (2X), EASTER MORN, SONG OF GOLD); #1684.

SWAN ISLAND. TB-La-WW (Taylor-W.E. 1948); Amity 1948; R., 1948; (parentage unknown); □ gr.

SWEET MELODY. TB-E-R7L (Miess N.); R., 1948; (AZTEC COPPER x GOLDBEATER); #22-2B.

SYLVAN BELLE. Etc.; (Peck 1944); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.-S. BULL. 110:5. July 1948.

SYMPHONETTA. TB-M-R1M (Lyell N.); R., 1948; (HAPPY DAYS x MATULA); #43-16-9; □ sl.

SYRIAN VENUS. TB-M-La-R6D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ALBERT GERSDORFF x MAYLINA, R., 1946); □ sl.

TAFFY TOP. TB-M-Y9M (Gates N.); R., 1948 (MIDGARD x —); □.

TAGLIO. TB-M-Y74 (Raboin-M. N.); R., 1948; (GOLDEN HIND x SUN HAWK); □ sl.

TALL TALE. TMB-M-R9D (Muhl. N.); R., 1948; (STORM KING x ZEBULON); #48-65; □.

TANAQUIL. TB-M-Y9M (Spender 1946); Wal. 1946; R., 1948; **Tangier** (Spender 1946).

TEHERAN. MMB-E-R8M (White-C.G. 1946); Millik. Gard. 1946; Muhl. 1947; (oncobred); R., 1948.

THE BRUCE. TB-M-La-S7D (Moore-J.B. N.); R., 1948; (PRAIRIE SUNSET x AZTEC COPPER); □ sl.

THE DUKE. TB-M-WW (Aylett 1941); R., 1948; (Sdlg. of VALIANT); □ M.

THE GREAT SMOKIES. DB-E-S9D (Grapes N.); R., 1948; (parentage unknown).

THE HIAWATHAN. TB-E-Y8D (Duquaine N.); R., 1948; (parentage unknown).

THE KIMLARK. TB-M-La-R4L (Raboin-M. N.); R., 1948; (Whiting #4139 x AUBANEL); □ sw.

THE KNOCKOUT. TB-M-La-Y4L (Muhl. N.); R., 1948; (REMEMBRANCE) x (MING YELLOW x PRAIRIE SUNSET); #48-58; ☐.

THE RED SHADOW. TB-M-R6D rev. (Miess N.); R., 1948; (THE RED DOUGLAS x TOBACCO ROAD); #338B; ☐ sl.

THE SHOWMAN. Etc.; (MUHL.); H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:6. July 1948.

THE SWAMP FOX. TB-M-S7D (Ketchum N.); R., 1948; (parentage unknown); ☐ sl.

THOMAS W. POCKETT. TB-M-Y9L (Aylett 1943); R., 1948; (CALIFORNIA GOLD x CHINA MAID); ☐ M.

TIETON. TB-M-W8M (Norton-L. N.); R., 1948; (ROYAL SCOT x LADY NAOMI).

TIGRID. TMB-LaM-W8D (Aylett 1931); R., 1948; (LADY LILFORD x ALCAZAR); ☐ none.

TOLTEC. TB-M-S9D (Heller N.); R., 1948; (SUNGOLD x CHRISTABEL); #0-2-13.

TONE POEM. TB-M-Y3L (Whiting N.); R., 1948; (GILT EDGE x GREAT LAKES); #46-28; ☐ sl.

TONTO. TB-M-Y9M (Miess N.); R., 1948; (MEXICO x TOBACCO ROAD); #318B; ☐ sl.

TOPPER. TB-EM-W9D (Dozier N.); R., 1948; (WABASH x SIR MICHAEL); #47-25.

TOP SCORE. TB-M-Y9M (Salbach 1948); R., 1948; (Sdlg. x Sdlg.); #10-42B; H.C., 1947; A.I.S. BULL. 106:128. July 1947.

TOURNAMENT. Etc.; (Wills 1948); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:4. July 1948.

TOURNAMENT PRINCESS. TB-M-B7M (Millik. 1948); Millik. Gard. 1948; R., 1948; (BETSY ROSS) x (MOUNT CLOUD x CHEERIO); ☐.

T. P. ERREY. TB-M-S7D (Aylett N.); R., 1948; (PRAIRIE SUNSET x MAY DAY); ☐ str.

TRANQUIL MOON. TB-M-Y6L rev. (Cook 1948); Long. 1948; R., 1948; (PINK REFLECTION x Cr-W rev bic. Sdlg.); #2045; H.C., A.I.S. 1946; ☐.

TRINIDAD. TB-M-La-R9D (Pilk. N.); R., 1948; (MATA HARI x —).

TROPIC MOON. TB-EM-Y4L (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; ((MAGNOLIA x CITY OF LINCOLN) x ((SNOWKING) x ((LAGOS) x (LADY MORVYTH x RANGATIRA))); #1/U108.

TROPIC SKIES. TB-M-R6M (Smith-K. N.); R., 1948; (MATULA x ORANGE GLOW).

TRULY YOURS. TB-La-W5M (Fay N.); R., 1948; (((RAMESSES x FAR WEST) : Fay PiB1 #41-40) x (D-Hall #42-35 Pi) : Fay Lem Y#44-43)) x (ZANTHA); #46-35; ☐ sl.

TWILIGHT PEACE. TB-La-S9M (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (ARCATA x Loomis' #SQ-70); ☐ lo.

TWILIGHT SKY. TB-M-R4M (Fay N.); R., 1948; (PINK

UNITY MALONE. TB-E-W4 CAMEO x Hall-D. #44-8 Pi); #47-6; ☐ none. (Hampton N.); R., 1948; (PURISSIMA x —); ☐ sl.

URANIUM. TB-E-Y1M ? (Drewett N.); R., 1948; (MOONBEAM x MRS. VALERIE West); ☐ sl.



- VALE OF KASHMIR. TB-M-W6D (Millik. 1948); R., 1948; ☐.
- VANCIA. TB-M-La-Y6L rev. (Corey N.); R., 1948; (BIRCHBARK x ELSA SASS); #31-H-1.
- VELVA. TB-MLa-R4D (Fass N.); R., 1948; (THE RED DOUGLAS) x ((45-1 : (ROSY WINGS x MING YELLOW))).
- VELVET DUSK. TB-M-B1D (Schreiner-R. 1948); Schreiner 1948; R., 1948; (SABLE x their own line of dark irises).
- VENETIAN PRINCE. TB-La-S9D (Stevens-W.R. N.); R., 1948; (MRS. VALERIE WEST x FIRELIGHT) x (VELVET ENVOY); #1/T4.
- VERONICA. TB-E-M-R7M (Loth. N.); R., 1948; (OLD ROSE x BABS) #48-3.
- VIOLET BRIGHT. TB-M-B7M (Taylor-C.C. N.); R., 1948; (SNOW FLURRY x VIOLET SYMPHONY); #356; H.C., 1947; A.I.S. BULL. 106:128. July 1947; ☐ ho.
- VIOLET HARMONY. TB-M-B1M (Lowry N.); R., 1948; (SNOW FLURRY x CLOUD CASTLE); #L5-42; ☐.
- VIOLET RAIN. JAp-MLa-DBL-B5M (Roberts-Mrs. N.); R., 1948.
- VIRGINIA CITY. TB-EM-La-Y9D (Wilson-D. N.); R., 1948; (THE RED DOUGLAS x FLORA ZENOR); ☐ none.
- VIRGINIA NELSON. TB-M-W6L rev. (Nels.-E.P. N.); R., 1948; (CALIFORNIA GOLD x ARCTIC); ☐ sl.
- VIRGINIA II. TB-La-Y4M (Allen-R.E. N.); R., 1948; (VIRGINIA x VIRGINIA); ☐ v. sl.
- VIRGINIA TOPPING. TB-MLa-Y4D (Bech. N.); R., 1948; (TREASURE ISLAND x SPUN GOLD); ☐ w. gr.
- VOLATINA. TB-M-W7M (Peckham N.); R., 1948; ((IMPERIAL BLUSH x self) x (Sdlg.)); #45-34-1.
- VOODOO. TB-La-R6M (Klein. 1948); Cooley 1948; R., 1948; (MEXICO x TOBACCO ROAD); #350E; ☐.
- WARRIOR QUEEN. TB-EM-R6D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (MRS. GARRET O. MOORE x KNIGHT WARRIOR, R., 1945); ☐ sl.
- WHEATLAND GOLD. TB-M-Y9M (Small-R.C. N.); R., 1948; (parentage unknown).
- WHIRLWIND. TB-M-S9M (Wilson-D. N.); R., 1948; (PRAIRIE SUNSET x TOBACCO ROAD).
- WHISTLING SWAN. TB-M-WW (Waters-D. 1948); Long. 1948; R., 1948; (SUNNY RUFFLES x SNOWKING).
- WHITE HEATHER. TB-M-W1 (Millik. 1948); R., 1948; (SNOW FLURRY x ROSE BOWL); ☐.
- WHITE HERON. Spur-WW (Millik. 1948); Millik. Gard. 1948; R., 1948.
- WHITE MONOLITH. TB-M-W2M (Herbert-W.I. N.); R., 1948; (DOMINION x MOONLIGHT).
- WHITE SENTRY. TB-M-WW (Benson-C.W. N.); R., 1948; (BIRCHBARK x BRUNO).
- WHITE SUEDE. TB-E-WW (Gates N.); R., 1948; (PURISSIMA x —).

WHITE THROAT. Sib. Wal. 1946.

WHITE WATERS. TB-E-W1 (Tompkins N.); R., 1948; (MATTERHORN x WHITE GODDESS); ☐ tuberosa.

W. I. HERBERT. TB-M-Y6D (Herbert-W.I. N.); R., 1948; (Helios (Cay) x W. R. DYKES) x (GOLDEN HIND).

\*WILBUR GERSDORFF. Etc.; (Gers. N.); R., 1938; etc.

WILBUR GERSDORFF. TB-La-R6D (Gers. N.); R., 1948; (\*IDE CAMMERER x KNIGHT WARRIOR, R., 1945); ☐ sw.

WILD SWAN. Etc.; (Debaillon; Dormon 1943); corr. BULL. 92: 73. Feb. 1944.

WINDBLOWN. Etc.; (White-A. N.); R., 1941; etc.; \$.

WINE DROP. TB-M-R3D (Dozier N.); R., 1948; (SABLE x WABASH); #47-87.

WINGS-IN-THE-DAWN. Jap-Sgl-E-5RL (Roberts-Mrs. N.); R., 1948.

WINGS OF WHITE. TB-M-W7 (Ulrich N.); R., 1948; (CRYSTAL BEAUTY x MODISTE); ☐ sw.

WISCONSIN CENTENNIAL. TB-M-B1M (Duquaine N.); R., 1948; (KINGLET x TENEBRAE); ☐ vi.

WISHING MOON. TB-ME-Y4L (Corey N.); R., 1948; (JASMANIA x MING YELLOW); #25F-5; ☐; H.C., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:6. July 1948.

WITCH HUNT. TB-M-W8D rev. (Drewett N.); R., 1948; (BOOTBLACK x TANGERINE).

XYLOPHONE. Jap-Dbl-6BD (Gray-N. N.); R., 1948; (fr. Sdlgs. derived from seed sent by a Missionary to Japan, from the Mikado's gardens years ago).

YARKAND. Etc.; (White-C.G. 1948); H.M., A.I.S. 1948; A.I.S. BULL. 110:5. July 1948.

YELLOW DIAMOND. TB-La-Y4L (Lowty N.); R., 1948; (HER GRACE x GOLDEN MAJESTY); #L3-19; ☐.

YELLOW GOWN. TB-M-Y4L (Gates N.); R., 1948; (PERFECT PRAYER x NARANJA); ☐.

ZAFFER. TB-EM-B3M (Peckham N.); R., 1948; ((PARTHENON x NIGHTSHADE) x (SIERRA BLUE)); #40-20-47.

ZILPAH. TB-M-B3D (Loth. N.); R., 1947; (? x PERSIA); (omitted from 1947 list).



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JULY - 1949

NUMBER 114



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Rating Techniques—Dr. E. L. Clark, 619 Emerson St., Evanston, Ill.

Recorder of Introductions—Robert E. Allen, 282 Fisher Ave., White Plains, N. Y.

Registration—Chas. E. F. Gersdorff, 1825 No. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.; Assistant, Mrs. Walter Colquitt, 487 Albany, Shreveport, La.

Scientific—Dr. L. F. Randolph, N. Y. State College of Agriculture, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

American Representative, Wisley Trials—Kenneth D. Smith, Benedict Road, Dongan Hills, Staten Island, N. Y.

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Cassebeer photo

A companion planting of irises Yellow Glory and Lord Dongan, backed by a profusely blooming Weigela rosea, made one of the 1949 beauty spots in the garden of Fred Cassebeer at Blauvelt, N. Y.



## Is Your Garden Open?

Want to cooperate in a worth while AIS project? It will cost you one cent, and in return you're likely to add several names to your circle of iris friends, besides enjoying the next iris season twice as much as usual.

BULLETIN editors plan to publish a complete 1949 membership list at the end of the year, to be mailed as a supplement with the January BULLETIN. Incorporated in the list will be an "Iris Visitor's Guide." Beside the name of each member who customarily welcomes guests at iris time will be printed a small iris bloom in silhouette to represent an open garden.

If you like to share the beauty of your irises with others—especially fellow AIS members—please write your name and address and the words "Garden Open" on a penny postal card and mail it to American Iris Society, 444 Chestnut Street, Nashville 10, Tennessee. If you can add the usual date for peak bloom or inclusive dates during which you will have a good display, so much the better; but if no date is given it will be understood that the garden is open when the irises bloom.

This does not commit you to a high-powered display program, nor is it just for those who have elaborate "show" gardens. Iris growers, in common with gardeners generally, are friendly people who will enjoy seeing and talking about even a few well grown plants.

Help us compile a complete and accurate guide to open gardens.

—*The Editors.*

# *We'll Remember Portland*

W. F. SCOTT, JR., (Mo.)

About the end of April there were disturbances in the Pacific Northwest, which, mistakenly, were attributed to seismographic causes. Actually, they were caused by the wringing of hands and the cries of anguish emanating from the iris group around Portland, Oregon. For almost two weeks the weather had stayed cool and damp (in Portland you never say "wet"—it's just "damp") and it looked for sure like another "bud and stalk convention."

However, according to Dr. Matthew C. Riddle, once the Portland Chamber of Commerce was apprised of the situation, it got right to work and ordered in some hot, dry weather—to begin at once, and to end Friday night, May 13.

The blooms almost scorched themselves getting clear of the bud sheaths, and then wonder of wonders, the hot spell ceased, and the next three days were perfect except for a small blessing of "Oregon dew" on Sunday morning.

All future Annual Meetings will be measured in comparison to the Portland one. It set a level of hospitality, entertainment, and iris which will be very, very difficult to equal.

Friday evening, groups gathered all over the lobby and mezzanine of the Multnomah. There was some small confusion with another convention which was also registering at the same time, and which was somewhat wetter than the "Oregon dew." However, after the differences in lapel labels had been checked, those interested in iris had no trouble joining groups having conversations on the same subject. Old friendships were renewed and many "correspondence friends" had the pleasure of meeting for the first time. By eleven most everyone had turned in, because the Portland schedule called for busses starting at 7:30 A.M.

Surprisingly, they *did* start at 7:30, right on the dot! The first day was slightly marred by one or two mechanical failures with the busses and by a few wrong turns, but those were quickly forgotten.

First, there was Cooley's display garden and office—a sight which must be seen to be believed. The display garden would be a credit to any horticultural organization, anywhere. It was beautifully



cared for and most tastefully arranged. Inside, in the packing rooms, Mr. and Mrs. Cooley had set up arrangements of iris on tables, one variety to an arrangement, all accurately labelled and priced. There were perhaps a hundred of those, and what a job of work they represented!

In the display garden there were nice clumps of several good varieties, including Pagan Princess, Sky Ranger, Lady Mohr, and others. There were also thousands of pansy plants and rhododendrons all over the place. Incidentally, one of the greatest surprises Portland offered was the profusion of rhododendron and azalea plants, all in full bloom, and found everywhere.

From Cooley's display garden the busses traveled to the Cooley farm, a few miles out of Silverton. The farm had nothing not already seen in the display garden, but lots more! There were rows and rows and rows of iris. Two solid rows of Lady Mohr! A full row of Misty Gold! A row of Mulberry Rose! After a while you found yourself slightly overcome with the profusion and glad to leave for the famous "little patch" of Dr. Kleinsorge's, in downtown Silverton. That lot can't possibly be more than sixty feet square—but from it have come a long list of champions. How the genial Doctor manages so much work in so small a space remains a miracle! Here also were fair sized clumps of a number of well known varieties from other hybridizers, including specimens of "those pinks."

From the "little patch" we went across the street to Dr. Kleinsorge's home garden. This is a tiny beauty spot, completely surrounded by beautiful trees and shrubbery. The artistically arranged beds are planted with well chosen annuals and perennials of a number of kinds, and accented by beautiful clumps of tall bearded iris—and I *do* mean *tall*! I later asked the Doctor how he got them to grow five feet high, and more, and he explained that the garden was completely protected and received only noon-day sun, and, as a consequence, the plants all stretched skyward for all the sun they could get. It may have been that skyward lift which made the clump of Sunset Blaze so outstanding! But there it was—and into my notebook went my vote for the President's Cup forthwith!

From Dr. Kleinsorge's we went to Silver Creek Falls Lodge for lunch—lunch as the guests of the Cooleys and the Schreiners—and such a lunch as it was! Ham . . . turkey . . . asparagus . . . baked

beans . . . salad . . . relishes . . . strawberry shortcake . . . coffee! And was everyone *hungry*!

What time there was to spare at the lodge was spent in gasping at the beauty of Silver Creek Falls. After trying to take a satisfactory Kodachrome photo of its beauty, without feeling that I had done so, I went back to the Lodge and bought some transparencies taken by a professional. Those will be added to my collection, without mention of who took them—maybe I'll get the credit for them.

From Silver Creek Falls we went to the new plantings of Bob Schreiner and his family. Imagine, if you can, 45 acres devoted to iris—oh, no, don't faint—only 15 in iris at one time—with two years' rest in between. The Schreiners moved west two years ago, but to look at their fields you'd think they had been growing iris on that land for several years. Bob and his brother had arranged things for the meeting very thoughtfully. Up front, close to the road, were the guest iris and selected seedlings from all over the country. Next, there were display rows of the better and newer things, and behind them were the growing fields and the Schreiner's own seedling patch. Under the trees there was a table loaded with ice cold Coca-Cola, water, and paper cups, considerately provided by the Schreiners, and most welcome.

Time to leave came all too soon, but the busses did leave right on schedule and the trip back to Portland was made pleasant by animated exchanges of opinion on the things seen, and by the beautiful scenery.

That night (Saturday) there was a showing of slides which attracted quite a crowd, and it would be a mistake not to mention the beautiful iris arrangements in the lobby of the Multnomah—with constant crowds of admirers and critics around them.

Sunday morning the busses were off on time again—with first stop at National Iris Gardens. Most unfortunately, the clouds chose that time to wrap themselves around the mountain top upon which these gardens are located, and, while it didn't *rain*, it became exceedingly wet on all sides. As if anticipating such an eventuality, Mrs. Weed had pots and pots of steaming hot coffee, plus doughnuts, ready to serve to the shivering horde. Thus fortified, the more hardy of the crowd slopped around and saw some very beautiful iris, arranged in a most unusual fashion. The display field was planted alphabetically, just the way the iris are listed in the catalogue—and you could walk up and down the rows, and







find exactly what you were looking for—providing, of course, you knew your A-B-C's.

From Weed's National Gardens we went to Oregon State College, where we had lunch in their Memorial Union building. The grounds of the Union building were beautifully planted with rhododendron and foxtail lilies in tremendous clumps, and iris were temporarily forgotten in a rush of picture taking. The lunch was excellent and the handling of the crowd was without blemish.

After lunch we took off for Fred DeForrest's. Arriving there, the first words most everyone uttered were, "Where is Argus Pheasant?" Unfortunately, that beautiful iris was not to be seen in the garden. Fred had cut the only two stalks of it and used them in an arrangement inside his house; the result was, his living room was constantly filled with people trying to see Argus Pheasant.

DeForrest's seedling rows were an amazing example of what controlled breeding can do. How he can cull out those uniformly excellent plants is amazing. They are all so good that it must be extremely difficult to decide what to throw out. I have been trying to save all mention of specific iris until the end of these notes, but it seems impossible to comment upon the DeForrest garden without mentioning the "horned toad" at the same time. The "horned toad" is a freak—you wouldn't want it in your garden—but it surely did attract the crowd. The style arms and standards of this iris are all frilled and curled and twisted until it does look like a horned toad.

From DeForrest's we went back to the hotel—again traveling on schedule and again adequately filling the trip back with discussion, criticism, and friendly debate. Again, also, roadside patches of native *Iris innominata* brought forth screams of "stop the bus" — but the bus went on.

← PORTLAND PORTRAITS: 1. Versatile Carl Salbach received an award from the North American Gladiolus Council on the first day of the meeting. 2. Californians Robert F. Morse (Ukiah) and Clarence G. White (of onco fame, Redlands) discuss matters with the genial ambassador from Texas, Judge Guy Rogers. 3. Peak bloom greeted visitors at Cooley's gardens. 4. Luncheon at Silver Falls State Park (R. M. Cooley family at foreground table). 5. Another winner? C. S. Milliken, Arcadia, Calif., and Dr. R. E. Kleinsorge admire Seedling 371 in the latter's garden. 6. Mrs. Ralph S. Nelson, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, stopped at Wenatchee, Wash., en route home and posed with Spanish Peaks in the garden of Gordon W. Plough. (Photos 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, courtesy Dr. M. C. Riddle; 6. G. W. Plough.)



That night (Sunday) the Board of Directors held its meeting, and there also was a meeting of the Regional Vice-Presidents. While those meetings were in progress, Mr. Carl Starker "packed them in" in the main ballroom with his lecture on flower arrangements. It was strictly a case of "standing room only"—and the air was filled with "ohhhhhhhs" and "ahhhhhhhs" at the magical way in which Mr. Starker transformed a handful of flowers and greenery into a beautiful and tasteful arrangement in almost the twinkling of an eye.

Monday—who will ever forget Monday? Again (minor miracle) the busses left on time, and we rode and rode and rode—finally arriving at Walter Marx's gardens at Boring, Oregon. Here, again, iris by the acre—but here, also, something few of us had ever seen. In his own front and rear yards Mr. Marx has one of the most amazing horticultural displays ever seen by many of the visitors. Hundreds of varieties of primula . . . rock plants by the score . . . hundreds of little beauties rarely seen . . . all growing beautifully and beautifully identified. Here also, quite a number of regelia and oncocylus things, plus tectorum alba growing more beautifully than usual. The iris rows came in for their share of attention but they definitely took second place to a study of the hundreds of little garden beauties not frequently seen.

After leaving the Marx Gardens we checked off another few miles and then made a very short pause at the Dutch iris plantings of Oregon Bulb Farm. There was nothing to be seen but acre after acre of the florist's iris Wedgewood—all in bloom and looking like a solid sheet of blue. Considerable interest was shown by some in the bulb planting and harvesting machinery which made those vast plantings possible, but we were quickly on our way again, to start the long climb up Mount Hood to Timberline Lodge.

Up and up we went—until, having climbed so long, a steep grade looked level and you wondered why the bus was laboring in second gear. The higher we went, the more dismal the weather became and at about 2500 feet we went into the clouds. Then it was dismal and damp, and you could scarcely see across the road. The journey was broken by a short rest stop at a clutter of log buildings called "Government Camp" . . . and then onward and upward. Finally the clouds began to thin, and then suddenly we were out, on top of the world! A solid white fluffiness blocked sight of everything below, but above us it was all bright and blue

and shining white. A turn in the road brought the summit momentarily into view—and everyone craned and gasped at its magnificence. Twenty minutes more and we pulled up at Timberline Lodge—a tremendous building, looking as though it were carved out of the rock itself. Here the snow was still fifteen feet or more deep in many places, and we entered the building through a wooden tunnel under the snowdrift.

Too much space could easily be devoted to a description of the Lodge, its furnishings and the balcony picture window looking upward at the bald summit of Mt. Hood across the snow fields. Therefore, I'll just say it was almost beyond description, and let it go at that. The lunch was good but was served at tables, whereas previously lunches had been cafeteria style. Since the seating capacity of the dining room was about half enough, there was a delay in finishing lunch, and several persons took advantage of this to ride the chair-lift a mile further up the slope of the mountain to the top of the ski runs, and then back down again. Loud whoops and screams were heard from one Nashville member\* careening up the ski slopes on the little chair, but whether from cold, fright or exhilaration could not be learned.

The busses left Timberline on schedule and ground their way back down the mountain and into Portland for the last time. The last visit was to the home garden of our host, Dr. Matthew C. Riddle, Vice-President of the region, and in charge of the Portland meeting. Hung, literally, on the steep side of a hill, Dr. Riddle's grounds would prove a puzzle to most of us. However, by clever handling of terraces and slopes, the yard is made to appear almost level. Most of it is in shade and there is only a small portion devoted to tall bearded iris. The majority of the beds are devoted entirely to the Doctor's amazing collection of native species iris and to his own hybrids of them. *Innominata*, *japonica*, *tectorum*, *tenax*, *reticulata*, *gracilipes*—those names stare at you from most labels. They are dainty little fairies and must be observed closely and at more leisure than the schedule permitted. All too soon the bus horns began sounding, and for once the drivers had a difficult time persuading their riders to move on. This was the end of the visits and no one wanted to leave. Besides, the punch and cookies served by Mrs. Riddle and her friends were too good! Finally we

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\*BULLETIN staff sleuths report this was Ellen (Mrs. Jesse) Wills.



left, and went back to the Multnomah to clean up for the banquet.

The banquet, too, started right on time, and the food was *good*—amazingly good for a hotel banquet menu. As soon as the plates were carried out we were treated to a sound movie prepared by Mr. John Ott of Winnetka, Illinois, with the technical assistance of Dave Hall, Orville Fay and Dave Hall's hired man. The title of the movie was "How to Grow Iris"—and it showed all the secrets of how the famous Messrs. Hall and Fay do their stuff, complete with detailed instructions. Having disclosed their secrets, those two will now probably go out of business. Also, there were some amazing time lapse scenes of iris growing, budding, and blooming. An unforeseen detail was the scuttling around of earth worms, looking like snakes at express train speed because of the time lapse photography.

Following the movies, Dr. Riddle, the toastmaster, introduced our President, Mr. Guy Rogers—who modestly admitted he was from Texas, and, under pressure, told us of a few of the wonders of that little known state. Other guests were then introduced, including Mrs. Rogers, Mrs. Jesse Wills, Mr. Wills, and members of the local committees. Among these were Messrs. Rholin M. Cooley, Robert Schreiner and Dr. Kleinsorge, who served with Dr. Riddle in handling arrangements; Mr. Wilbur Weed, who did such a fine job on transportation; Messrs. Harry C. Campbell and Walter R. Dimm, in charge, respectively, of finance and registration; and Mr. Carl Starker, who looked after the flower arrangements and decorations.

Then the guest speaker, Professor Sydney B. Mitchell, of Berkeley, California, was introduced. The title of his talk was either "One Hundred Years of Iris Experience"—or maybe it was just fifty years—but believe me, Professor Mitchell has had the experience and proved to be one of the most interesting speakers it has been my privilege to hear. You'll find his remarks in this BULLETIN.

When the movies started, a committee was appointed to withdraw and tally the ballots for the President's Cup. This went easily to Dr. Kleinsorge's Sunset Blaze—and the Doctor was called forward to accept the award. He acknowledged it; then, pointing to an iris which was in a vase before Mrs. Guy Rogers, said that he would like to name one of his new varieties for Mrs. Rogers. This

brought forth a great round of applause and much very becoming consternation from Mrs. Rogers.

An informal count of members from various regions was made, regions standing to be counted. All regions west of the Mississippi were well represented and there were quite a few from much further east, including Mr. and Mrs. Harold Knowlton from way down east at Auburndale, Massachusetts.

And, amid the usual farewells, the meeting closed.

Now to get around to new iris seen. There will, of course, be many opinions, and they may not coincide with mine. However, what I liked best were these—

At Kleinsorge's, his 342-A, 355, 360, 371, and most particularly his 372-A. They are all tan-to-brown blends, all showing their Tobacco Road blood to a greater or less degree. At Schreiner's, his own yellow-ground plicata F-286-2 and the following guests: Lapham D-2 and D-8—both coffee-and-cream, with D-2 having more cream than coffee. Miss Faught's Pierre Menard and her Cahokia. Clif Benson's Bellerive, in a beautiful clump. At DeForest's his Treva, Clear Sailing, Color Carnival, and Plum Pretty. I didn't care for his Carabella—a tall pink with high branching and nothing too startling. His Clear Sailing is a very beautiful yellow-white combination which is sure to find wide favor. Color Carnival is startling. I cannot call it a beautiful iris, but it sure is a show stopper. Imagine a good pink with a big blob of purple at the haft! It will attract much attention, and will be much wanted. At Dr. Riddle's I just wanted everything in sight, but most of them would be of difficult culture most places, so they'd better continue to grow out there in Oregon, where they do it so beautifully.

The farewell cry at Portland was, "See you next year at Sioux City!"

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#### FAVORITES "DOWN UNDER"

Blue Shimmer, Three Oaks, Queen Elizabeth (an Australian yellow) and Sable were voted tops in my garden this year. Elmohr seems to appeal greatly to some and not to others. It flowered very well — four stems on a

first-year clump.

Some interesting seedlings encouraged me. We in Australia are all "gone" on the pink buds, which fortunately appear very fertile.

—Lance S. Galbraith,  
*Victoria, Australia*



# A Half Century with Irises

SYDNEY B. MITCHELL, (Calif.)

*BULLETIN* readers who missed the Portland meeting this year may still enjoy one of its high points. Thanks to the foresight of Dr. Matthew C. Riddle, a stenographer was engaged to take down the remarks of Professor Mitchell at the Annual Banquet, and we are thus enabled to present them to you.—Ed.

The one sure thing that is going to happen to you is that some time you are going to be old. Don't let that bother you. If you were a tennis player or if you played golf; in fact, if you did almost anything else but garden, as you got old the younger generation would feel sorry for you; they would play with you because it was the decent thing to do but they would be bored. But if you stick to gardening and to iris breeding they will put you up as a monument as I am standing before you now, and they may even listen to you.

Now one of the compensations of being older is that you get a certain perspective. That is, you have gone through a lot of experience and you have seen a lot of changes. I think that I am probably the oldest collector of bearded irises on this continent who is still able to collect and breed them.

When I started in, which I did by importing from England—the source at that time of all the new varieties—I spent the first money that I earned in getting together a collection that was only second to that of Bertrand Farr. Nobody knew about it because I was an amateur and I was way off in eastern Canada. Of course I wanted to tell people all about irises but nobody wanted to listen in those days. They were just not interested enough in irises.

Then about forty years ago I came to California and brought the collection with me, and people in California weren't interested. They said that irises were just either white or blue. In fact they were so uninterested that if we had a lot of people at the house, and my wife wanted them to go home early, I talked about iris. It worked fine.

Now people actually ask me to talk about iris. I am not referring to a group like this because of course you are not normal, you know.

In fact, as I came out of the dining room at Timberline Lodge I heard a lot of people singing, "I'm half crazy." I didn't hear what about, but I suppose that it was about irises. It happens that I collect what you call understatements, and I thought that was one of the finest understatements I had ever heard. Because I had always assumed that we were all crazy, and I think that we are most fortunate in that. The people I am sorry for are the people who don't go crazy over anything.

Recently I have been offered and accepted the position of Chairman of the AIS Committee on Beardless and Species Iris. I want to say a little about something else besides bearded iris. There are parts of this country where bearded irises do not do well but where other irises grow very nicely. After all, bearded irises do not fit into every garden. I think that they fit into a great many gardens that don't have them, but there are other gardens—small gardens—and gardens with certain conditions where some of the species do better and are more appropriate. Moreover if we have a wide range of irises, species and varieties, beside the tall bearded, we can extend the iris season in a leisurely way over a period of about nine months.

You have had an opportunity here as you would have nowhere else of seeing something of the beauty of Pacific Coast native irises. Dykes refers to them as the California Sub-Section. Most of them grow in Oregon. That is a sad confession for a Californian, but we do have *Iris douglasiana* and certain other species in California. The best of them all is *Iris innominata*, native of Oregon.

#### CONVERTING THE WILDINGS

Now I am not one of those who like to go out in the wilds and rip up wildflowers and take them into gardens. I think that gardens should be clothed with garden flowers, so that my interest in iris species and beardless irises is that of a gardener and in the possibilities of converting our wildings into garden flowers. One has to recognize that wildflowers have certain very marked limitations.

The wildflowers are what they are because they have found just exactly the conditions under which they are the happiest and under which they will thrive. And while there are many gardeners whose ambition is to do the most difficult thing—mostly men, I may say—who like to baby the wildflowers and see if they can



grow them in their gardens, the hope of these beardless and species iris is that the breeders will take and make out of them the much more adaptable races that have been made, for example, of the bearded iris and the Japanese iris and certain other groups. If you come around here in twenty-five years from now . . . maybe in ten years from now . . . I don't care when it is, my ghost will be here looking at the improvements which have been made in the Pacific Coast native irises.

Somewhere else in the South they are gathering the Louisiana species, beginning naturally with what they can find, but they are already breeding them. Miss Caroline Dormon has recently stated that a good many of them are a bit shy of flowering. That is very common in wildflowers. They must be bred, seedlings must be selected out, the good-natured ones that will adapt themselves to a wide range of garden conditions must be saved, and the temperamental ones must be cast out. Thus a garden race of southern irises, I am sure, will be raised which will eventually be the equal of the Japanese irises.

Already in California a group of breeders around Los Angeles have taken the spurias—Eric Nies, Carl Milliken and others—and from the simple colors of *Iris ochroleuca* and *monnieri* and some of the blue spurias like Lord Wolsely and A. J. Balfour they are breeding a race of spurias which will have new colors—bronzes and combinations of blue and yellow. They are widening the petals and taking the kinks out of them, and in every way making a better garden race.

That I believe is the function of iris growers rather than just to go out in the wilds, bring in the natives and try and grow them as they are. Of course if there are people who like to do those difficult things that is their privilege. But we are looking always to the improvements of irises whatever they may be and I hope that in the next few years the variety of irises grown in our gardens will greatly increase.

It is possibly news to you, because I only learned it from a young Dutch bulb grower recently, that there are a lot of improved Dutch irises which have been raised in Holland. Henry de Goede, the son of the breeder of many of them, has recently settled in Washington at Mount Vernon, where he is growing them. For those of you who can grow the Dutch irises there are plenty of thrills ahead because they are being immensely improved.

Again we have had for a number of years a lapse of interest in the Japanese irises, but recent importations of varieties not previously obtainable and breeding which will undoubtedly be resumed once we have good materials to work with will give us better Japanese irises than we have ever had.

There is even opportunity for the breeding of the Algerian irises, *Iris unguicularis* (*I. stylosa*), which furnish us with such excellent cut flowers in California and in the warmer parts of the country.

I realize that the interest of most of the growers is in the tall bearded irises, but, on behalf of the committee which I head, I am going to ask for more and more space in the AIS BULLETIN. There are lots of people interested. They don't make as much noise; they don't make as much money out of these less known irises but they are entitled to consideration; the time may come when some of you will be converted to growing something beside the tall bearded varieties.

I recently sent to my publisher in New York the manuscript of a book on irises which I wrote last winter. They wanted the emphasis placed on tall bearded irises because they said that that is what people are interested in. I held out for forty per cent space for other than the tall bearded, because I believe that the interest can be developed and the base broadened so that we can have something beside the hectic month or so when we all go delightfully crazy over what is our greatest interest.

#### NO STANDARDIZATION

What is the future of the tall bearded iris? If you ask one man he will say, "What I want is every flower with the haft so broad that it will touch the other haft." He wants the same things as the daffodil breeders do when they say they want a perianth that shows no daylight between the segments.

I think that that is one thing to strive for, but I wouldn't want to see all irises that way. It will give them a grand, massive, long-staying quality because in order to do that they must have plenty of starch in them. But there are some irises that will lose a good deal of grace and of lightness and of spirit if they are given that form. I would like to feel that over the next couple of decades there will be breeders working in all directions, and that we will not have a standardization of the flower to one form.



Where standardization has occurred a flower eventually loses interest. When I went to college no one grew any chrysanthemums except great big ones. You went to football games and you parted your hair in the middle and in your lapel you had a huge chrysanthemum. Does anybody do that today? How many people grow those big chrysanthemums any more? They got tired of the standardization and of size; now we have made a garden flower out of the chrysanthemum by having a variety of forms—singles, pom-poms, decoratives, and so forth.

The same thing has happened to the dahlia. We got it standardized to the size where it was a sort of floral cabbage. People spent their lives disbudding and feeding them. Where are the big dahlias of yesterday? Gone with the wind. Now we grow the decoratives.

Any art perishes as soon as you try to standardize it. Should architecture have stopped with the Greeks? Or in the Colonial Period, or—ghastly thought—in the '70's or '80's? No, it goes along and we have new developments.

There are people who hate new pictures, new paintings, the modern art. There are others who dislike new music. But all pictures, and all music fill new wants—often very different from what went before—so let us be tolerant about change and refuse standardization.

A landscape architect said to me the other day, "There should be some way of preventing so many irises from being introduced. There should be some way of selecting only so many each year," and I said, "Who is going to select them?" As soon as you face that, you face the fact that we would have regimentation of art—of our art, iris breeding, just as they have regimentation of science in Russia today. Someone who was on the Board of Selection and didn't like tangerine bearded pinks might say, "We don't want any pinks. This is now a red iris society and we will have nothing but reds here," and you would not be able to breed anything but reds because somebody said so.

And so let's be charitable or tolerant and realize that we don't know where the tall bearded irises are going. There are all sorts of possibilities ahead of us. I have been playing this game for so long that I can remember when a German iris grower up in Washington said, upon seeing Conquistador, "Oh, yust another

lawender," but Conquistador is probably the most important breeder that has ever been produced. It is one of the great-grandparents of Chivalry, for example; it is one of the grandparents of Snow Flurry and of practically all of the whites. It is in all of the blue plicatas. It is in a lot of the yellows. It is in almost everything, but to him it was just another "lawender."

## ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT

They were saying twenty-five years ago, "We've got all the blues we want," and there isn't one of those blues in our lists today. They have all been replaced by better ones. So don't believe that the iris isn't still susceptible of tremendous improvement.

I just asked Dave Hall before I came up to sit here, "Have you by any chance ever got a bicolor tangerine bearded pink?" and he said, "No," and I said, "I've got one in my garden this year." I would like to be able to say that I spent years working for it but heaven knows where it came from—I don't know. As a matter of fact, its parents were (Isabellina and Spindrift) and Hall's 4205, as I remember, but why it should have pale pink standards and deep orchid pink falls, I don't know. But those things are happening, and they are going to continue to happen, and we are going to get better—I won't say bigger and better—but better irises, some of them big, some of them smaller. Gardeners come into our place and they say, "Can't we have irises that are not quite so big? Our garden can't carry many of the new ones that you have."

Let me stop here for a moment and say that there is no time when an iris grower gets tired of looking forward to the blooming of his seedlings. No iris grower with unbloomed seedlings ever commits suicide. They just don't do it. Difficult, unpleasant, hard things happen to us all during a lifetime, and it is a great thing to always have something to look forward to—some absorbing interest without which the future might not seem very interesting.

And so I would say, don't stop anybody from breeding irises. Encourage people in doing it. That doesn't mean to encourage them all in trying to introduce the seedlings that they have raised. After all if they do introduce them and they are no good, that will be found out in time. There was a man up in Minnesota about twenty-five years ago who had never seen any good iris and he introduced about fifty in one year. Five years later you couldn't



find any of them anywhere. That took care of itself. He used up an awful lot of names, of course, but that was the only real damage that he did.

#### THE PROBLEM OF NAMES . .

My concern really is about this using up of the English language. I am very glad that the AIS has decided to charge for registration, and I hope that they will go further someday and make a ruling that if, after a certain number of years—five or ten—after an iris has been registered, if it hasn't gone into commerce, if it hasn't been in any catalog, the name will revert back into the English language and may be used by someone else. I knew one man who registered a hundred good names and not one iris did he ever get into commerce. Well, after he died, Mr. Gersdorff released the names, which helped a bit, but you can't wait for people to die to do that because even young people sometimes make mistakes of that kind.

I don't know what we are going to do about names. I suspect that local growers are going to have to do the way Sir Cedric Morris has done, using the word Benton, the name of his home, thus: Benton Daphne, Benton Primrose and so on, although that could be very weird in certain places. Walla Walla is a good iris town but are we going to have a Walla Walla Welcome? There are some people here from Illinois; what are they going to do when a breeder from Kankakee gets busy? And down in Southern California there is a little town near Los Angeles called Watts. It is one of those places that is always made fun of on the vaudeville stage. I would like to see what a person with Clarence White's lively imagination would do if he were living in that town; he might name his first iris Watts That. And then I suppose that the next one would be Watts What.

This problem is much more difficult than raising new irises. There are already existing in our gardens wonderful seedlings for which it is going to be terrifically hard to get decent names.

#### IRIS PERSONALITIES

Well apart from the irises themselves what is it that you value? What are we here for today? Association with other iris growers. I have only met one in my lifetime whom I cannot describe ade-

quately in the presence of ladies. He very fortunately got uncomfortable in the midst of so many decent people and left us years ago, to my great pleasure.

Iris growers are an extraordinarily nice if sometimes unusual group of people. You may be interested in first hand comments on some of those who have gone from us now; I am not going to mention anybody who is still alive. There was old M. Fernand Denis. My wife and I went to call on him once in Paris. He was staying on the left bank, in Montmartre. We climbed up to the top of his five-story hotel; he was in bed with a nightcap on. But did he wake up when there was someone there to talk irises with him! He was talking in French and we were doing the nearest thing that we could to talk to him in French; he was so excited that we thought he was going to fall out of bed when he described his new seedlings.

Shortly after, we went down to see Mr. A. J. Bliss. Mr. Bliss, if you will remember, raised Dominion and put the velvet into irises along with horizontal falls. He did a great deal. He was a retired engineer who lived in a little cottage on the banks of a little river in Devonshire. He lived in a state of the most utter and delightful confusion. I never saw anything like it. He had unwashed dishes there for two weeks, I should guess. It was the kind of thing that a married man dreams about.

He was a gentleman, a fine old person. He was seventy years of age, almost stone deaf, and he tore around England on a motor bicycle. Now England isn't very big, and if you go very fast you are apt to run off of it, you know. He wore with dignity, I may say, the oldest clothes that I have ever seen. Up to that time my wife had been in the habit of saying that I was the worst dressed gardener that she had ever seen. She has never been able to say it since. I guess I didn't mention that he was a bachelor.

Coming over to this country, I remember delightful visits with Grace Sturtevant in her lovely garden in Wellesley Farms. She really did breeding that I think was fundamental. Moreover she did a great deal to encourage my friend, William Mohr, before I ever met him.

Coming across the continent, I suppose that some of you will remember Mr. E. B. Williamson, one of the most delightful, active, and energetic spirits I ever knew. He lived not far from Franklin Mead. One morning Mead woke up to what seemed like a heavy



hailstorm against his window. It was four o'clock in the morning and Mr. Williamson had driven over and had thrown a handful of gravel against an upstairs window. When Mead, who was a much more conservative sleeper, poked his head out, Williamson said, "Don't you get up until afternoon here?" Williamson was a very, very dynamic personality as well as a fine iris breeder.

Coming to California I would single out the late William Mohr as one of the great iris breeders. I doubt if there is anybody who has ever done more to provide us with the material for our modern breeding, but he was the most modest man I ever met. Did you ever go into the garden of a breeder where there were things like Conquistador (everything that he had was better than anything that I had ever seen, for this was the beginning of the use of *I. mesopotamica*) and be told, "Oh, I haven't anything worth introducing at all"? If that happened today in any breeder's garden I think I would have a heart attack, and that would be the end of that. And I don't blame them of course because most of them have, and of course he had, wonderful things.

#### THE SAVIOR OF THE MOHRS

What I would like to be remembered for is that I was the person who saved the seedlings of William Mohr, because you would never have had Purissima, nor its seedlings, Snow Flurry and Helen McGregor. You would never have had Los Angeles or San Francisco and their progeny. I remember particularly a morning when I went down to his ranch twenty-five miles away. We are troubled in California with rodents called gophers which are very fond—almost as fond as we are—of irises, but they prefer the leaves and the rhizomes. Mr. Mohr had a single plant of what later was named by me William Mohr, surrounded by a whole battery of gopher traps because they were all working in toward it. All of its descendants: Barrimohr, Ormohr, Elmohr, Lady Mohr, Morning Blue and Peg Dabagh, to mention a few, would never have been bred if the gophers had ever gotten through that battery of traps. But they didn't and so eventually that year William Mohr bloomed, beginning a new race.

After all, the great things are the associations that we make. I speak of these people because they are gone and most of them you didn't know, but there are just as fine people in our iris

society today, just as interesting people, probably just as crazy people. I hope so anyway. It is in our association with the people who are interested in the same things that we really derive a great deal of our pleasure from our hobbies.

In 1930 I was a college professor and I went to England. College professors—American college professors—going to England are a dime a dozen. But when an iris breeder goes to England that is something, and they just open their arms and their houses and you don't have enough week ends to spend with the people who want to talk irises to you or listen to you, which is different from what it was when I began many years ago.

Lastly I want to pay my tribute to the breeders and to all those who have made the modern irises. About the time that I began to get interested in irises we didn't have any moving pictures; we had what they called illustrated songs. Some of you approaching my age may remember they threw pictures on the screen and they sang, "Break the News to Mother" and "She's Only a Bird in a Gilded Cage." I thought of one song the other night that perhaps has some faint relationship to my subject. If the irises could all get up and acclaim our members here they might say in its words, "You made me what I am today, I hope you're satisfied!"

When I used to have to speak at the alumni dinner of the School of Librarianship at the University of California once a year it became traditional with my students that I always finish my speech in exactly the same way. My wife finally broke it up but she didn't think to put an inhibition on my talk tonight and so I am going to take perhaps the last opportunity to finish as I used to finish my talks to my students. It is the only story that I have to tell.

It was of a man who visited one of the state hospitals. After he had conducted his business in the office there he started through the grounds and he saw a young man standing around and got into a conversation with him. They discussed the modern, more humane treatment of the mentally sick and so on. Then in the middle of the conversation the young man said, "You don't happen to have a piece of toast, do you?" He said, "No, I haven't. Why?" "Well," the young man said, "You see I'm a poached egg and I'm tired and I'd like to sit down."



# Iris that Grow from Bulbs

JAN DE GRAAFF, (Ore.)

The bulbous iris include some very fine varieties that are used extensively for forcing during the winter months. Most people, even non-gardeners, are therefore well aware of their existence and will readily identify them when they see them in the flower shops. That these same iris have not found general acceptance as garden flowers cannot then be ascribed to lack of knowledge of them. It must rather be due to a variety of causes, some economic and some cultural. The interplay of these factors throws an interesting light on a question that has certainly occurred to many gardeners. This

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*Jan de Graaff, head of the Oregon Bulb Farms, Sandy, Oregon, is a distinguished plantsman whose ancestors for generations in their native Holland made important names for themselves in the growing of plants and bulbs. Combining an Old World love of beautiful plants with American ingenuity for fashioning machinery that enables him to grow them by the millions, de Graaff now produces for our gardens a large share of the daffodils, lilies and bulbous irises that are grown. The BULLETIN is proud to present his informative article.*

*Incidentally, if you've never tried the intriguing bulbous irises, invest in at least a few dozen bulbs of the Dutch varieties this fall and grow them just as you do your tulips. They'll surprise you with real "outdoor orchids" next spring—wonderful for cutting.*

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question is, what actually makes a garden plant popular and what controls its general availability?

Bulbous iris are not difficult to raise. They are hardy and will grow without attention in even the poorer soils. Planted in small groups in the garden, in sunny locations with a porous, well-drained soil, they will flower profusely. They multiply quickly and will not only provide a handsome picture in the June garden, but also furnish many fine cut flowers for the house. When, however, they are grown on a larger scale, such as in a commercial nursery, they present many problems and a real challenge to the grower's skill and knowledge.





Caldwell photo

Carl Salbach's National Velvet, first of a new group of Dutch hybrid irises, promises to be immensely popular.



These problems are of various types and every one has to be solved separately. In the first place, the small size of the iris bulbs and their offsets requires special machinery to harvest them. Of course, on a small scale they can be grown in rows, planted and dug by hand. A good, stout shovel, a strong back and a great deal of patience can do wonders with a row of iris bulbs. Even the most careful bulb digger, using a screen to separate the bulbs and bulblets from the soil, will however, overlook some of the smaller or smallest splits. In larger plantings hand digging would be entirely too costly and special machines have thus been built to get the bulbs out of the ground. Having designed and used two of these machines, I know that even they do not solve the problems of getting all the bulbs out of the ground.

What happens then is this. Small bulbs, or splits, stay in the ground. They grow on and again throw off splits, even before they have flowered. Now, when we consider that, both for greenhouse use and for general garden purpose, the best type of bulb is the one that has not yet flowered but has reached a size large enough to flower the following year, it becomes obvious that in order to keep stocks true to name and free from rogues, new ground must be provided for all the iris every year.

Some growers have tried to offset this factor by growing only one variety, so that if there were mixtures of old and new stock, they would cause no difficulties. This, however, does not solve the next problem, namely that bulbous iris have a habit of making at least some top growth in the fall. These rather tender, pointed spears of foliage are subject to damage from hail, ice or mechanical injury, such as raking, during the usual fall cleanup. When damaged, this still tender foliage offers a ready field for fungus attacks. It is, therefore, essential that the emergence of iris foliage be retarded to avoid damage and fungus infection. This is done by planting the bulbs late and by storing them, prior to planting out, in a warm, dry, well-ventilated room or warehouse. Planting such retarded bulbs in a field where remnants of previous iris crops might still be present would expose the late new crop to fungus attacks that have developed during the winter on the foliage emerging earlier from last year's bulbs or from bulbs that might have been left in several years ago. While a carefully managed and rigidly followed spray program will control fungus attacks, the value of the iris crop is such that no undue risks can be taken by the

growers and, hence, new land for each year's crop still remains essential.

The omnipresent virus disease presents still another problem that can, at least, be partially solved by planting the bulbs on new land. As in almost any other horticultural crop, bulbous iris are very much subject to virus diseases which can spread at an alarming rate. The almost total disappearance of the pretty Spanish iris and the ugly spotting of the flowers of English iris must be ascribed to this scourge. It is transmitted by insects which feed impartially on diseased and healthy plants and infect the latter. To the grower who is spending much money and time to free his plantings from virus-diseased plants, and to keep them clean, the threat that possibly diseased volunteers from previous crops might show up is enough to make him look for fresh land in entirely different locations.

If we add to these problems the ones of rodent attacks, leaf spot diseases and mechanical injuries of the bulbs in digging, cleaning and grading, then we find that bulbous iris production is one phase of horticultural effort that has its full component of problems and difficulties.

These troubles, however, absolutely do not militate against the bulbous iris for garden use. It is only when we bring millions of bulbs together in a comparatively small area that the chances for disease and pests attacking the planting multiply in geometrical proportion. It is not that a planting of one thousand bulbs is twice as vulnerable as a planting of five hundred. The chances of trouble developing are at least a hundred times as great.

### **Big Business**

Commercial production of bulbous iris, then, is "big business." It takes expensive equipment from the moment that the land is prepared to the happy day that the crop is harvested. Briefly, the requirements are tractors for plowing, disking and harrowing; slow moving tractors for planting and digging; special machinery for the harvest; air-conditioned rooms for curing the crop, and constant heat until late in the fall when the retarded and cured crop is planted back. In the meantime the salable, round bulbs have been separated from the planting stock and have been run through very expensive mechanical grading processes. They have been



counted, packed in sacks and again in wooden crates. With all this expense before a single bulb is marketed, the grower can hardly be expected to spend much time or money in merchandising his crop. He is apt to sell it through the five or six large jobbers of quality bulbs that exist in this country. The jobbers, in turn, cater mainly to the commercial florists who buy in large quantities for cash.

Cultural problems, then, call for expensive machinery which again must be supported by large acreages in order to be profitable. The high cost of production of the bulbs plus the still higher cost of production for the flowers, when forced during winter, all call for the greatest possible economy all along the line. That economy can best be achieved both by the bulb grower and by the florist by concentrating on as few varieties as possible and preferably on only one variety. With one variety only to consider, the habits of growth, the dates of flowering and of maturity will all be identical and crops can thus be timed to best advantage. All these factors then have tended to lessen the number of varieties produced. It is equally true that they have been instrumental in increasing the number of bulbs grown of each variety, which, in turn, has made it possible to lower prices.

In concentrating on a single variety it is obvious that the demand of the commercial florist must be the controlling factor in its selection. He buys iris bulbs, not by the hundreds, but by the hundreds of thousands and orders placed by the leading bulb jobbers for several million bulbous iris are not rare. The total demand of the public for iris for garden decoration is not more than 5% of the total used for forcing and hence it plays a comparatively small role. The florist wants an iris that forces easily, that lends itself to timing for special holidays and requires little space in the greenhouse. The variety that by common consent is the best for this purpose is the *I. tingitana* hybrid, WEDGEWOOD, raised before World War I in our nursery in Leiden, Holland, and, by now, undoubtedly the most widely grown and popular bulbous iris.

It is interesting to note, in passing, that at the time it was our aim to produce an iris for the garden rather than for forcing or for the greenhouse. WEDGEWOOD and its companion seedling THE FIRST were judged to be rather unattractive for the garden, mainly because of their typical *I. tingitana* foliage, very wide and soft so that it falls over rather than stands up straight. These two hybrids were also considered to be not quite hardy enough for the Dutch

climate and the stock that had been accumulated was destroyed. In the meantime, however, samples of all the bulbous iris produced by our firm had been sent to Messrs. Lowe & Shawyer, owners of large greenhouses near London, England. After they had been forced, it at once became apparent that in WEDGEWOOD we had raised a forcing iris of the very highest quality. The little sample was carefully grown to maturity, the bulbs saved and from these few a new stock built up, one which, by now, covers many hundreds of acres.

### **Blues Are Favorites**

While WEDGEWOOD is and for many years will be the leading variety for greenhouse use, the florist and the public, as well, have been rather surprised that it should be the only iris now available in quantity and are now demanding other colors. Confronted with this demand, the growers have again turned to those iris which by virtue of their resistance to virus diseases and other cultural troubles offered the opportunity for mass production with its ensuing lower production cost. Without any doubt this was found in the old variety IMPERATOR. Darker blue than WEDGEWOOD, later and with a slightly smaller flower, it is a perfect flower both for cutting and for garden decoration. It is generally considered to be hardier than WEDGEWOOD and can be produced commercially in regions where WEDGEWOOD does not thrive.

With two good blues, one light, early blue and the other dark and late, there still remained a need for a good medium-late, light blue of good size. This gap has now been filled quite adequately by the beautiful BLUE HORIZON, an introduction of our firm of some ten years ago. Strangely enough, with adequate stocks of these three good blues, the demand for other colors has been less active. Our records show that even with plenty of other colors available, blue iris outsell the yellows and whites almost ten to one. This percentage differs somewhat according to the region. San Francisco, for instance, has always insisted on receiving a larger proportion of yellow iris. Los Angeles florists seem to be more partial to whites.

The yellow iris are dominated by the variety YELLOW QUEEN. Again an introduction of our firm, this one is very old and dates back to long before World War I. It is most prolific and will flower from even the smaller splits. It, therefore, presents very definite and unique production problems, not the least of which is to save



enough of the little splits to build up and strengthen the foundation stocks. YELLOW QUEEN has good, long, wiry stems. It flowers profusely, often with more than two flowers per stem. Its color is a good golden yellow and while the flower is not large, it is of nice proportions. Several new yellow iris have recently made their bow, among them GOLDEN HARVEST and GOLDEN EMPEROR. Although both have much larger flowers than YELLOW QUEEN, they are not nearly as graceful and refined. Best of all the yellow iris to date is GOLDEN LION.

### **A Perfect Flower**

GOLDEN LION is that curious phenomenon, something that we find in the plant world only rarely, but often enough to be marked down as a definite occurrence; that is, a perfect flower. This is not just a rash statement, made to promote the particular variety. Among bulbous plants there have been other such perfect flowers. Darwin tulip Clara Butt, for all its fifty years, remains without a flaw. Daffodil King Alfred, of the same vintage, has no trouble at all in holding its position as the most popular and outstanding flower of the entire daffodil family. Among the iris GOLDEN LION fulfills the same role. It sets the standard for all other iris. Although it appears to have one flaw, since it seems to be a slow propagator, that may not be the case, since we have never had a large enough stock of it to make an adequate test with various methods of production. GOLDEN LION has been so much in demand and is so pretty that it has always been sold before we could accumulate any considerable quantity. It is a ruffled golden yellow iris with graceful and well-proportioned flowers borne on tall, wiry stems. The foliage is narrow and slight and the whole plant is most attractive, both in the garden and when cut. It is an extremely late iris and may well be, in part, of Spanish iris origin.

Among the white iris the old WHITE EXCELSIOR has pretty well been eliminated in favor of WHITE SUPERIOR and WHITE PERFECTION. Both are expensive, the latter still far too much so, but they will soon replace WHITE EXCELSIOR. Recently in an old garden I found a small stock of the Spanish iris, KING OF THE WHITES. This is a charming, very pure white iris with a very narrow, golden orange stripe down each fall. I am building up a stock for no other purpose than to have it for table decoration in my house. A silver

bowl filled with some fifty or sixty stalks of this little gem is a pleasure to behold.

Iris lovers of an older generation will remember many other varieties. There were the Spanish iris such as KING OF THE BLUES, THUNDERBOLT, a bronze one; CAJANUS, a tall and pure golden yellow; FLORA, white and lilac, etc., etc. All of these have succumbed to virus diseases and to the competition of the more vigorous, larger and taller Dutch iris. But even among the Dutch iris the mortality has been high. Breeders are constantly striving to improve them and new varieties, with clearer colors, larger flowers and better growing habits, are replacing the old standbys. Currently popular are the already mentioned WEDGEWOOD, IMPERATOR, YELLOW QUEEN and WHITE EXCELSIOR. Another white, D. HARING, is taller, but not quite as well formed nor as pure in color. THERESE SCHWARTZ is one of the very prettiest iris with a two-toned flower of white and light lilac. Pure lilac are MAUVE QUEEN and VIOLET QUEEN, while the already mentioned BLUE HORIZON adequately fills the need for a medium-early light blue.

### **Notable Newcomers**

This list would not be complete without two additions, not merely of varieties, but of families of hybrids. The one is the result of crosses made by Mr. Carl Salbach who used various Dutch iris and combined them with the species *I. fontanessi*. The results of these crosses are a race of very dark pansy or violet-blue iris of a distinct velvety character. The first one to be marketed is called NATIONAL VELVET and promises to be immensely popular. The other family of new hybrids consists of a number of extremely deep-orange colored iris of which ORANGE KING is probably the best example. PRINCESS BEATRIX is another iris that bears watching.

Unfortunately the Holland growers have been raising a large number of new Dutch iris and are marketing them in this country without adequate trial. Many of the varieties promoted by them are simply variants of already existing types and are not worth a great deal more. Others are definitely good, but again they resemble each other too much. Some excellent new varieties will eventually emerge and possibly even a few that will be of merit for forcing. This would mean that again mass production would be possible so that low costs can be established. In my opinion, the low cost of bulbs of



this type is a pre-requisite to popularity. These Dutch iris are not items to be set out singly, to be admired and cherished and to be nursed along by amateur growers until adequate quantities are available. They should be grown by the acre by professionals, so that the amateur can buy them cheaply and in good quantities. Only then can the bulbous iris come into its own, as gay masses of color in the June garden, as huge and graceful bouquets in the house.

I have expressly refrained from mentioning many of the other bulbous iris. The sweet, violet-scented *I. reticulata* is now available in new varieties. The English iris are again with us in good quantities and at low prices. The reader is referred to the excellent catalogs of our seedsmen for sources of supply and for information about the varieties that are currently available.

As I mentioned in my report on bulbous iris, printed in BULLETIN 87, October, 1942, the entire group of bulbous iris, large and heterogeneous as it is, should become an object of study for some young taxonomist and geneticist. A critical study of these fine garden plants is long overdue.

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#### LABELING

There are now good display labels for iris, but the problem of labels for crosses and seedlings—where durability and long continued legibility is imperative and economy important—has been troublesome. Plastic is too brittle. Paper has its writing eaten off by wasps, and indelible pencils are not as reliable as they sound. So, seeing the new labels of sheet aluminum on which one embosses with a pencil, I thought I had the solution. However, the design is poor in the type most often seen here, which provides a long, narrow “tail” for wrapping. This is not strong enough, and the part bearing the writing is frequently detached.

I therefore bought the sheet aluminum and cut it with metal shears into labels 4 inches long by  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide. By getting the correct thinness and

hardness, the right embossing property is obtainable. The specification is .004 inch thickness, “shim temp.” It comes in foot-wide rolls, costing 20 cents a square foot here (minimum order, 60 cents). This yields 72 labels for 20 cents or about  $\frac{1}{3}$  cent each. And it's much cheaper in full roll lengths (19 pounds).

For a rod to hold the label I use  $\frac{3}{16}$ -inch aluminum welding rod bent into the shape of an inverted “J” (but with the rounded portion of the letter flattened). One end of the label is then wrapped several times very closely around that flattened part of the rod, and the sharp bends on either side keep it from slipping off.

I think at last I can stop changing label systems.

—Roswell H. Johnson, Los Angeles, Calif.

*It Was a Good Season in - - -*

## Texas and Oklahoma

HARRY THOMAS, (Okla.)

*R. V. P., Region 17*

The 1949 season in Region 17 was a good one. Stalks on established plants were tall. A large percentage of the new varieties bloomed and gave a good account of themselves. Three shows—at Temple, Texas, and Oklahoma City and Enid, Oklahoma—were held under the auspices of the American Iris Society. All were very successful, especially from the standpoint of visitor interest. A regional meeting of the Society was held in Wichita Falls, Texas. Just to give us something to gripe about, scorch made its appearance in several districts. Many of us had never seen it before. The heaviest damage was in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, but there were scattered cases over the entire region.

I saw the first tall bearded bloom in Dallas on April 19 and Fort Worth on April 20. In Dallas, bloom was almost at its peak. Fine things were seen in the gardens of Dr. Sidney Baird and W. L. Cochran. Outstanding in Dr. Baird's garden was a big clump of Rocket with seven stalks in bloom, two to three flowers open on each 38- to 40-inch stalk. It made a brilliant show. Here I saw Ivory Charm for the first time—a large ivory with gold in the throat. It is a good one. Auburn in a big clump and Solid Mahogany both looked good.

In Boley Cochran's garden the accent was on the new pinks. He has a fine collection of the best from Hall, Loomis and Fay. I saw Carabella for the first time. It is a salmon pink with a pink beard, taller than most of them but not as pink or as smooth as some. Cochran is probably the most serious hybridizer in the region. He has several series of pink seedlings that show lots of promise. The best of these that I saw is 49-2 (Spindrift X Overture) which looked better to me than either parent. His 49-5 (Tobacco Road X Mandalay) is a big smooth flower with the color tones of Auburn, without the blue flush on the falls. The stalks are nicely branched and it was blooming at 38 inches. 49-4 (Elmohr X Berkeley Gold) is a good light yellow with Berkeley Gold form and a slight Mohr



veining. It has perfect branching. I saw Apex for the first time in Cochran's garden. It is a big smooth Bordeaux red. It was a first-year plant and the stalk was short, but it looked like a good one.

In Fort Worth, Mrs. W. R. Jordan's bloom was just starting. Winter Carnival, Golden Spike and Lullaby were in fine form. Lullaby was fine all over the region. It is a swell iris and it blooms early. Across town from Mrs. Jordan, the bloom in the garden of Mrs. W. R. Rose was farther advanced. She has one bed with all the Mohr family which is very effective. Fine plantings of Violet Symphony, Master Charles, Fort Knox, Rocket, Lady Mohr, White City and many others made a midseason display of iris at their best. I called on Mrs. S. W. Ray, but she was not at home so I missed seeing her planting.

On April 28, members of the region swarmed to the one-day regional meeting at Wichita Falls, Texas. Some 200 members and at least an equal number of their friends attended. Thirty towns and cities in Texas and Oklahoma had representatives, including 40 Oklahoma City people who chartered a bus to make the 150-mile trip. Many came from points 400 miles away.

Guy Rogers' bloom was the best I have ever seen it, and that means that it just could not possibly be any better. Things that are supposed to bloom on 38-inch stalks were blooming at 48 inches. We saw whole drifts of things like Chivalry, Bryce Canyon, Golden Russet, Golden Ruffles, Pale Dawn, Cordovan, Lake Shannon, Lady Mohr, Helen McGregor and others. Most of the 1948 introductions were there, as well as unintroduced new seedlings from leading hybridizers. To mention them all would require a young book. Here are a few:

Ebony Isle—Almost black; deep red purple. Very rich and smooth.

Color Carnival—Either liked very much or passed by. A pink with the tangerine beard and bright purple markings half way down the falls.

Carlsbad Caverns—Huge. Light yellow standards; white falls edged yellow. Fine 40-inch stalk with three flowers open.

Marion Vaughn—Very fine. Lemon ice, Moonlight Madonna type.

Lights On—One of the reddest. Rich and glossy.





Caldwell photo

Thousands of visitors saw beautifully grown irises in the Wichita Falls garden of Judge and Mrs. Guy Rogers. Here the popular AIS President gives a critical OK to his border of the free blooming white variety, Priscilla.

Nankeen—Big yellow with russet tones. 42-inch well branched stalks.

Gentle Florence—Wide ruffled bluish white. Well liked.

General Patton—A fine bright copper-red.

Drum Major—A good deep rose. 40-inch stalks with good branching.

Mexican Magic—A fine reddish copper with a blue flush on the falls. Branching not too good but a good display.

Radiation—Wonderful orchid-pink with a tangerine beard. Liked by everyone.

Lilac Lane—A lilac self. A good iris in a color class that is certainly not crowded.

Starshine—Deep cream standards, white flaring falls with a slight blue flush and edged with the color of the standards. Superfine substance. A beautiful iris in a two-year clump. Held three flowers open on well branched stalks.



Cahokia—Very blue. One of the top light blues. Big ruffled flowers nicely displayed.

Velvet Dusk—This is a good one. Deep blue-purple with a sheen. It has good form and taller stalks than most of the dark ones.

His Excellency—A better Louvois. Pinkish tan standards, rich brown-red falls with a border the shade of the standards.

To many of us the big kick of the meeting came not from the named varieties on display, but from two of Judge Rogers' seedlings. One of his crosses produced three of the finest irises I have ever seen. No. 49-1 and No. 49-2 are big beautiful pure whites including the beards. Both are ruffled with flaring falls. No. 49-2 has a bit more ruffling. 49-1 is slightly more tailored and has probably a little better substance. Both stood up under hot sun, wind and showers for two days. Both are well branched and bloomed at about 36 inches. A few days after the meeting, No. 49-3 bloomed. This is a light blue, just a shade deeper in color than Helen McGregor. Beautiful ruffled standards and flaring ruffled falls. The substance is as good as in the whites. It has good branching and the stalk was 37 inches.

Visitors were pulled away from Judge and Mrs. Rogers' garden by the feature attraction of the noon luncheon at the Women's Forum. This was a talk made by the editor of the BULLETIN, Sam Caldwell, who flew out from Nashville to help make our meeting a big success. His talk was illustrated by his very fine collection of Kodachrome slides, showing not only bearded and species irises, but also other interesting flowers and gardens.

I did not have much time this season in Oklahoma City gardens, as I was away from home a lot. In Mrs. E. G. Sawyer's garden I was very much impressed with Distance. It is one of the finer blues. A light powder blue; very smooth, no veining, fine flaring form. I had missed seeing Spanish Peaks until this season, when I saw it in the garden of H. A. Raboin. It lives up to its publicity and is a fine all white. I saw Love Story at Mrs. Russell Pryer's. This is a new pink with the tangerine beard that for smoothness and clarity of color ranks with the best.

On May 8 I was in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. F. E. Rice is one of the big daylily men in the region, but he also has a fine collection of iris. One of the best things I have seen anywhere was his

big clump of New Snow. We measured one stalk; it was 48 inches and had four flowers open. Desert Song, a large flaring ruffled cream, was also very fine.

New things in my garden that I liked included Twilight Sky, a fine pink with a red beard. It bloomed next to Cherie. It is a little deeper in color than Cherie and the form is more tailored. Both are excellent. Fire Dance, a very brilliant red plicata and the best of its type, really stands out. Sky Ranger is the tallest blue. It is a heavily ruffled medium blue that opens three flowers at a time nicely spaced along the stalk. This first-year stalk opened 12 flowers.

On May 11 I left Oklahoma City and Region 17 for the Annual Meeting at Portland. I had followed peak bloom in the region for four weeks and had traveled over a thousand miles in our two states. The day I left, Extravaganza, the last iris to bloom in my garden, opened its last flower. I call this perfect timing.

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#### DES MOINES SIDE DINNER MEETING

Tuesday evening, April 19, over seventy Iowa AIS members and their guests enjoyed an informal dinner meeting and viewing of the AIS Slide Collection No. 1 at Bishop's Cafeteria in Des Moines. Besides the collection sent from the Nashville office, it was a great pleasure to see excellent slides of the garden of Mrs. H. M. Iltis of Des Moines, who has used a formal planting arrangement for her iris garden and enhanced its beauty by the over all use of masses of white and purple dictamnus (gas plant). Slides of Mrs. Clyde Tucker's garden in Des Moines were also shown. On a relatively small plat Mrs. Tucker has achieved excellent color combinations and she knows which iris show off best in shade and which in bright sun.

Outstanding views from Mr. Ralph Deitrick's personal collection of slides

were also shown and a few of the members remained afterwards to see the whole show over again. Mr. Deitrick's collection showed sharp close-ups of new varieties plus most effective iris plantings as seen in Nashville during the Annual Meeting in 1948 and the fine gardens in the Chicago area last season.

A door prize rhizome of Rocket was won by Mrs. R. F. Watson of Ft. Des Moines, Iowa. There were many members from close to Des Moines while others traveled over a hundred miles to attend.

Discussion following the meeting was animated and suggestions kicked around in fine spirit. One suggestion was to have a slide collection of only dwarf and intermediate iris, another of beardless, so that their popularity would be increased.

—Craig D. Ellyson, M. D., Waterloo, Iowa.



## *Meeting in Memphis*

GEDDES DOUGLAS, (Tenn.)

For fifty-one weeks in the year, the people of Memphis, mighty metropolis of the Mississippi, are more or less normal in most respects. They eat and sleep and conduct themselves as do other human beings, but in the fifty-second week a strange metamorphosis takes place. The sleeping pupa of frolic and fun breaks its cocoon of everyday casualness, and reckless conviviality holds the city in a spell of enchanting carnival spirit. King Cotton holds sway, and in honor of this great event Mrs. Morgan Ketchum, pioneer iris breeder in this locality, has named her ruffled white seedling Cotton Carnival.

A few days before arriving in Memphis on April 30 for the Region 7 meeting, Sam Caldwell and I had seen Cotton Carnival in the fine display garden in Grenada, Mississippi, but we were hardly prepared for the wealth of seedlings produced by Mrs. Ketchum. Some seventy-five visitors assembled with us at the Ketchum garden and were treated to a very fine display of new named varieties and seedlings galore. Iris seem to like Memphis; they grow there as if they never had been anywhere else before. Elmohr, for instance, on about seventy-five one-year divisions produced no less than seventy-five bloomstalks, each crowned with a huge blossom. I particularly liked Mrs. Ketchum's Mistletoe, reminiscent of both Starshine and Lady Louise, although the three differ considerably. Mistletoe seems to have more contrast between the pearly white of the center of the falls and the creamy tan flush at the haft. The flower is stiff and of great substance with nicely ruffled falls which flare almost horizontally.

From the Ketchum place we journeyed to the garden of Dr. and Mrs. T. P. Nash. Here climbing roses and flowering shrubs vie for attention with Dr. Nash's fine plicata seedlings. But plicatas were not all. There were whites and blues and a clean soft cream of good substance. In another planting the influence of Tobacco Road was clearly in evidence for there were blends of the char-





Caldwell photo

The new garden of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Clark put on a good show for Region 7 visitors.

acteristic shape and one flaring bright yellow with stiff horizontal falls.

From Dr. Nash's garden the entourage moved to the most colorful garden your correspondent has seen this season. Mrs. A. F. Allen grows hybrid teas, climbers, peonies, a variety of perennials and iris with equal ease and they all bloom together in a happy confusion. Color is truly the keynote here—strong, clear colors in bold splashes in both background and foreground; and it was with great reluctance that we left this delightful spot, but the pangs of hunger won out and the next stop was Parkview Hotel and a Dutch lunch.

In the afternoon we visited John Pierce's garden for the second time. We had had a quick look as we came into town the afternoon before—just enough to make us realize that we would certainly want to come back and see John's seedlings with more leisure. His first-year bloom was almost remarkable and both the seedlings and his fine collection of new varieties were well grown. In fact I almost did not recognize two of my own iris, Carousel and Red Majesty, they were so big and husky. New Snow was superb, and though past its peak this garden bore ample evidence of earlier glory. In the seedling patch there was a very lovely ruffled creation



from Chivalry and Snow Flurry, an outstanding lavender pink from Fantasy and a large medium blue from Chivalry and Helen McGregor. John is very modest concerning his creative efforts but the chances are that you will hear from some of these things later on.

After a visit to the LaBundy commercial garden where ample opportunity for studying modern varieties in mass planting was afforded, we moved on to Grandview Gardens, which is a beautifully landscaped commercial planting. The main iris garden is laid out in the shape of a giant wheel. The paths are the spokes and the triangular spaces between are the beds, amply filled with several hundred new varieties. Though this garden is new it needs but a short time to fulfill the hopes of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Clark for a grand display of bearded iris. In adjacent beds there are columbine, pansies and daylilies in profusion. Flowering shrubs form the background, and on the spacious front lawn there was first a barbecue supper and later an open forum.

That there is a deep interest in the affairs of the Society was evident from the character of the questions which were forthcoming. The discussion was lively and the answers were furnished by a panel consisting of Mrs. Morgan Ketchum, Mrs. Henry Grant and R. S. Sturtevant, assisted by your Secretary and your Editor.

Sunday, May 1, had been set aside for visits to the gardens of Mrs. Leo Reynolds, Mrs. E. R. Fox and Mr. Robert Carney, but plans had to be abandoned due to lack of cooperation on the part of the weather man. But Mrs. Reynolds, assisted by her co-hosts, Mrs. Lester Presson and Mrs. Sam Blackwell, both of Whitehaven, and Mrs. D. S. Rising of Kansas City, managed a most fortuitous substitution of steaming black coffee for iris to cheer the wet and bedraggled fans that trooped, mud and all, into the Reynolds house.

People? They were there from far and near—Mr. and Mrs. Sam Sargo from Arkansas and Mrs. C. C. Shultz from Louisiana. There was a large delegation from Mississippi headed by Mrs. T. B. Revell and Mrs. J. K. Avent. Carl Carpenter was down from Owensboro, Ky., and from Alabama there was Mrs. A. H. Glaister.

Iris? They were there. The usual Symposium favorites were in evidence and I especially liked Gold Nugget, a brilliant small yellow; Pale Dawn, an off white with good form; Dixie Belle, a huge

ruffled white with a gold haft, and Southern Snow, a clean cut flaring white with an orange beard. Corey No. 72F1 was a colorful plicata on the order of Minnie Colquitt. The branching, however, was greatly improved and the color of the border deeper and clearer than in its illustrious predecessor.

For the most part, I find the oncocyclus derivatives interesting rather than useful. Parachute No. 1 is a large bulbous flower of pale blue shot full of purple blotches and streaks. Blue Elegance, however, which we saw in Shreveport, La., is an exception. It is a large iris with wide segments. The color is very attractive—a medium steely blue with enough of the oncocyclus retained to give an exotic character to its stately beauty. Perhaps one of the better ones will be Lady Dozier, a deep blue-purple of typical hybrid form. It was very impressive in Nashville on a one year plant.

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## **Iris Enthusiasm Growing in Ohio**

### ***Robins Flock to Columbus***

The Columbus, Ohio, Iris Society, of which Mrs. Paul R. Stephan is President, has grown steadily in recent years until a membership of about fifty has been attained. Last November Mrs. Silas B. Waters, R. V. P. for Region 6, asked Mrs. Stephan to organize Round Robin correspondence groups in the region. So successful were her efforts that four Robins with ten members each were soon winging their way through twenty-two communities in Ohio, two in Indiana and one in Michigan.

In the spring attractive invitations were issued to all Ohio Robins and other iris lovers by the Columbus group, inviting them to attend a tour of Columbus iris gardens on May 22. Visitors met at the home of the "Mother Robin," Mrs. Stephan, then journeyed downtown for lunch and joined local fans in the beautiful garden of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Emig. From there the tour continued through the notable gardens of Mr. Jack Downey, Miss Grace Innis, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McCormick and also the McCormick seedling beds at Battelle Experimental Grounds. It ended back at the



garden of Mr. and Mrs. Stephan, where light refreshments were served.

Of the event, Mrs. Stephan wrote to a Robin member who was unable to attend:

“Let me give you just a few highlights of the tour. Some of the outstanding iris seen, I think, were Pink Cameo—just delightful—and Blue Rhythm. (By the way, the combination of Blue Rhythm, El Morocco, and Elmohr is truly beautiful.) Try this, I’m sure you’ll love it. Ola Kala was finer than I ever saw it before. Cascade Splendor was gorgeous and Solid Mahogany, rich and stunning.

“Spindrift was lovely this year. Our Marion Robins said they had never seen Spindrift when it was not flecked with purple until they saw it here. We have never had that trouble in Columbus. Mellowglow really put on a show. Mr. Downey had a planting consisting of Chivalry, Spindrift, Pink Cameo, Sylvia Murray, Master Charles and Katherine Fay. The entire grouping made a lovely picture. I caught the last rays of the sun shining on Cascade Splendor with Garden Glory in the foreground. I’ll not forget that exquisite combination for a long time.

“As far as I know, Harry O’Brien, the ‘Plain Dirt Gardener,’ was the only one in Columbus to have Pretty Quadroon flowering in his garden. We predict it will be a top-flight favorite for many years to come.

“I think all who attended felt the day a success and we in Columbus enjoyed making new friends.

“Quite a number from our society spent one day at Don Waters’ garden in Elmore, Ohio. His seedlings are truly wonderful this year. His blue seedling with olive-green throat should be introduced, in my opinion. A pale blue with standards and falls edged with pale olive-green was simply exquisite. Of course, his Orangeman and Whistling Swan were grown to perfection. On Sunday, May 29, a group of us enjoyed the day at Bluffton, Indiana. Paul Cook’s pink seedling, No. 53-45, and his ‘Night Velvet’ (my own name for seedling No. 56-47) were reward enough for the trip. Mary Williamson greeted us in her charming way in her gardens.

“On these two trips we stopped at Urbana (Wickersham’s and Dr. Frederick’s gardens). At Wickersham’s we saw Esquire. I was so impressed with it that I ordered it as soon as I returned home. At Greenville we visited Ward Williams’ garden. He has many of

the topnotchers growing in fine style. The Keiths were visited at Mansfield and the Guy Simons at Shelby, Ohio. At Marion we stopped at Romine's, Rockwell's and Mrs. Haldeman's. 'Rocky' has some interesting seedlings. All are members of Ohio Robins, and so you see we are enjoying our iris hobby from one end of Ohio to the other.

"The Columbus Society will sponsor an Iris Show in cooperation with the AIS in 1950. Plans are under way, so welcome to Columbus next year."

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## Region 18 Meets in Wichita, Kansas

With approximately 100 out-of-town members augmenting the entire Wichita group, Region 18 held its annual regional meeting in Wichita, Kansas, on Saturday and Sunday, May 7 and 8. One of the features was a show at the Art Museum, which, after the judging, was open to the public.

The first day brought typical iris convention weather—rain—but Sunday was beautiful. A bus and many private cars took visitors on a tour covering a number of beautiful Wichita gardens. Bloom was excellent. The trek ended at the home of John Ohl, who has one of the most extensive iris plantings in the region. Practically all new varieties are displayed there in well grown clumps. The center of attention was Muhlestein's new Pink Formal, which is on trial at Ohl's.

A dinner was held Saturday night at Wolf's Cafeteria, with about 100 in attendance. E. H. Mattingly, who served as the show chairman, presided. Among the guests were Carl Schirmer, AIS Director, and his wife; also his brother, Dr. H. W. Schirmer and Mrs. Schirmer.

Ray Rickman, Joplin, Mo., was present and showed a selection of slides from the regional collection, and accompanied the showing with an interesting talk on how to make good color photos of iris. Following the slide showing there was a brief address by Regional Vice-President W. F. Scott, Jr., and the meeting was adjourned.



## *A Successful First Year for the - - -*

# **Iris Society of New Jersey**

MRS. JOHN W. HUNT, (N. J.)

The formation of the Iris Society of New Jersey was due to the initiative of the Board of Directors of the Montclair Garden Club, who realized there was a wide-spread interest by gardeners throughout the state in the growing and crossing of iris.

With the adoption of a constitution, the election of officers, and the selection of committees, the Iris Society of New Jersey was duly formed on June 5, 1948, at the Presby Memorial Iris Garden in Upper Montclair, New Jersey, with an initial membership of more than thirty from all parts of the state.

At the first regular meeting in October, Mr. Fredrick W. Cassebeer of New York, Regional Vice-President for this area for the American Iris Society, and a breeder of iris, spoke of his crosses and showed colored slides of iris and iris gardens.

In midwinter Mrs. Frederick P. Walther, who has been active many years in the maintenance and improvement of the Presby Memorial Iris Garden in Upper Montclair, gave an interesting talk on the history of iris and showed colored slides from the American Iris Society.

Dr. Arthur J. Casselman of Camden, New Jersey, originator of Blue Twilight and other iris, spoke at the early spring meeting.

An all-day meeting was held May 28 at the Presby Garden, to which all New Jersey members of the American Iris Society were invited. Mr. Cassebeer and Mr. Harold W. Knowlton of the New England region were also invited to attend.

In the afternoon the annual meeting and election of officers of the Iris Society of New Jersey was held. Officers who served through the society's first year were: President, Mrs. P. Joseph Leibrecht; 1st Vice-President, Dr. Arthur J. Casselman; 2nd Vice-President, Mrs. Frederick P. Walther; Recording Secretary, Mrs. John W. Hunt; Treasurer, Mr. Charles H. Caldwell.

The Iris Society of New Jersey will welcome as a member any resident of the state interested in the growing of iris. The dues are \$2.00 a year, and membership in the American Iris Society is required.

# *Iris from New Zealand*

ROBERT SCHREINER, (ORE.)

In recent issues of the BULLETIN correspondents have used the term "amoena" more or less loosely in describing iris with white or cream-yellow standards and deep yellow falls. Possibly bicolor would be a better word, but whatever the correct designation, such iris can be very lovely, as evidenced by one that has come to my attention which is a great advancement over anything I have previously seen or heard of in this general color pattern.

About six years ago in correspondence with Mrs. Jean Stevens of New Zealand we discussed problems relating to the creation of newer amoenas in which we were mutually interested. She mentioned a break that occurred in her seedlings. This plant, 1/P78, was a new type iris with absolutely pure white standards and rich primrose yellow falls. The very striking feature was the sharp color contrast, standards being pure white without even a touch or hint of cream or yellow. As soon as a plant could be spared, a root was forwarded to us in the U. S. In due time, allowing for acclimation, since New Zealand being in the Southern Hemisphere has reverse seasons to ours, we flowered this striking and original plant.

It took about two seasons for this plant to become oriented to its new home and during this time Mrs. Stevens, intrigued by the unusualness of this iris, carried on further extensive crossings. Soon she had 1200 seeds of it and its sisters. However, she too found the troublesome difficulty of germination which we experienced with our blue and white amoenas, but constant endeavor through constant crossings eventually paid off in the flowering of a much superior plant. This plant was the iris Pinnacle which is indeed a breeding triumph. We flowered this newest development in 1947, and in our estimation it is one of the most original color creations attained. The dazzling white standards and the lemon yellow falls are unique. The combination is chaste yet bright. As a garden subject it carries wonderfully and the perfection of the flower with its fine poise and extra thick leathery substance accentuates its individuality. As far as I can recall I have never seen an iris at any time with this definite color pattern. There have been a number of inverted bicolors with standards yellow and falls white



but as far as I can recall this is the first time white standards and yellow falls have appeared in such perfection. This true white and yellow "amoena" has the distinctiveness of Wabash combined with mellow yellow tones giving a picture of enduring loveliness.

Perhaps it is not exactly fair to mention this latest creation of Mrs. Stevens first, since she has had other remarkable attainments, but the achievement of Pinnacle is so exciting it seems paramount. Far removed from all iris centers, Mrs. Stevens has developed a most unusual group of iris, the quality and class of which are quite amazing. Most of us know the fine iris Destiny which was her first creation. (She was then Miss Jean Burgess.) The next iris that made a great name for itself was the variety Inspiration. In many portions of the country this fine carmine shaded rose-lavender iris is being selected over the famous Elmohr because of its ease of growth. The use of Inspiration in crosses gave rich purple Rangitikei; and vibrant red Winston Churchill is derived from this general family. It ranks as one of the reddest iris. Mention too should be made of Redmayne, a strawberry red with flaring falls, and Marlborough, sort of ashes of roses dusted on rose-lavender and extremely late blooming.

Outside of Paul Cook's accomplishments in large-flowered orchid-toned pinks, Mrs. Stevens seems to be the only breeder making appreciable progress in this color. Early Victorian is her only named variety but I understand a newer and finer seedling flowered two seasons ago. Pompadour with its broadly domed standards is a striking new pink in the conventional iris pink tones. With all the activity in the pink class, it is notable that heretofore no really first class rose pink had emerged until two years ago when Mrs. Stevens achieved Challenge. So this hybridizer had not one but two of the finest new iris we had the pleasure of viewing in 1947. Challenge carries in the garden with a telling rose pink shade. We think it will be eagerly sought after.

Mrs. Stevens' efforts cover quite a color range. Coromandel in the rich yellows is praiseworthy. A new kind of near opaque gold and smooth russet-brown bicolor is most interesting. Random Harvest is the finest of this line of endeavor. In the blends there are some fine iris. Cedar, originated years ago and noted for its substance, passed on this valuable trait to Polynesia which is reminiscent of Stardom. Newer still is the exciting creation, Caribbean Treasure, a brilliant blend of salmon and peach in the general class

of Sunset Serenade. The last blend I would like to mention, Autumn Splendor, is one for which I have only the highest praise, a rich autumn shade, bright golden brown like the golden brown shades of foliage at Indian Summer. This blend is most effective. It is deeper than many of the lighter blends yet not as sombre as Tobacco Road and some of the other well known deeper shaded blends.

There are several other developments coming from this interesting hybridizer in the far off Antipodes but space limitations do not permit mention of them here. The creations from this garden are amazing. Such a keen perception of quality and color is too seldom found. To find it being nurtured by a single individual so far separated from fellow breeders is most gratifying and augurs well for the future of the modern iris throughout the world. The work of Mrs. Stevens, employing her fine scientific knowledge and discriminating taste, will be well worth watching.

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## 1949 INTRODUCTIONS

BULLETIN editors had hoped to include in this issue a complete list of the new iris introductions offered by our dealers in 1949. Mr. Robert E. Allen, Recorder of Introductions, had received information on well over 100 new varieties at the time this issue went to press, but as he felt the list was still not complete, it was decided to hold publication until October.

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### CALIFORNIA COLD ALTERS BLOOMING ORDER

The winter of 1948-'49 was very severe, relatively, throughout California. We not unnaturally thought that the season of spring bloom upon which our Southern California Iris Society Show depends would be late. However, some unseasonably warm days in mid-April brought on the bearded varieties about on schedule, but with less time intervening between early and late varieties than usual. The amazing thing was that the Louisianas

were inordinately late—much past their usual season. In fact, there were so few at our April 23 show at Plummer Park in Hollywood that only four of the possible 18 ribbons were awarded. These classes are normally full. Siberians—normally later than Louisianas—were on time for the show. Theoretically, this is not surprising, in view of the more southern range of the Louisianas which makes them more responsive to the cold.

—*Roswell H. Johnson, Los Angeles, Calif.*



# IRIS SYMPOSIA

## 660 B. C. and 1960 A. D.

M. D. NAYLOR, (UTAH)

Long before the Christian Era the ancients boasted of their cultivated gardens. Collecting rare species of flowers and herbs was the hobby of kings and their gardeners were trained and learned men. The Hanging Gardens of Babylon, built upon the walls around the city, were 300 feet high and far more pretentious than any we moderns have conceived. Along the terraced walks where Nebuchadnezzar strolled with his favorite wife (for whom he built them), undoubtedly there grew among other exotic plants, tropical shrubs and palm trees, the oncocyclis iris of Asia Minor and Palestine. He brought to Babylon gardeners familiar with their culture. For, although the climate was not at too great variance with their native haunts, still the lush summers of the Euphrates Valley were a bit rich for their blood, and they needed expert care.

Centuries later when Christ walked along the countryside with his disciples, He too marked the beauty of the iris—growing native as they were where Nebuchadnezzar's emissaries 660 years before had found them and transported them by camel-train across the desert sands to satisfy a colossal whim. Christ, perchance, may have found them blooming on the Mount of Olives, on the shore of the Sea of Galilee when He crossed over, or even at Gesthemane, and they were pleasant in His sight for He spoke with His friends, saying:

“Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not neither do they spin — But verily I say unto you Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed as one of these.”

Since lilies are not indigenous in any form to the Holy Land—and since the moniker (iris) was unknown to the Hebrew bibliographers, it has been concluded by historians that He undoubtedly spoke of the oncocyclis: *I. lortetii*, *I. susiana*, *I. atropurpurea*, *I. gatesii* or perhaps even *I. helenae* or *I. iberica*.

Because Christ smiled His approval upon them, the oncocyclis have persisted in all their pristine glory even down to our day and

when they come into bloom in early spring, either in their native heaths or even when transplanted to foreign soil, they still seem to bear the halo of His smile. But they will ever be unwilling subjects away from the region where down through the centuries they must still remember His sublime omniscience. Perhaps because of such divine favor they still remain the most ecstatically beautiful of all God's creations upon the face of the Earth. Rest assured the frail efforts of mankind will never quite equal them.

But we moderns need not despair in our seemingly unquenchable desire to produce better and more beautiful iris. The philosophy that whispers "You have just about reached the ultimate" is a false and vicious thing. The truth is that we have barely scratched the surface, and I dare predict that the 1960 Symposium will not contain a single iris name that we know today. Look back ten years or more and you will see what I mean. Progress in the future will be much faster than in the last decade. There are many more of us at it and we know our way better. We are far more scientifically equipped to avoid the pitfalls into which our forebears stumbled; from now on each year's seedling beds should show evidence of a more thorough knowledge of genetics, color values and plant habits. Furthermore, we are building on solid foundations, which, although laid down the hard way, are nevertheless substantial and extremely promising.

Consider for a moment the New England Popular Symposium as reported in the January, 1948, BULLETIN. It appears that this was taken at a show so located that we may assume that there was present at least a fair cross-section of present Symposium winners, so the example can be called typical. The results show some rather startling facts. First we have:

### THE WHITES

In this section Mount Hermon and Sharkskin were voted best, both splendid varieties but not outstanding even by present standards. They probably won on texture for they have it to a marked degree, but they certainly lack the charm of the perfect white. Snow Flurry seems to have far more of it but the white of the future will be larger, taller and a much cooler color with far more ruffling and lilt. Its beard will be either pure white or a very pale azure blue. We have a long way to go in creating such an iris, but in



the not too distant future we shall look forward to its introduction. Now let's glance at—

### THE REDS

Here are the winners: Red Gleam and Cheerio, believe it or not. Both good garden subjects, but they are not red; in my garden Red Gleam is a typical border iris. The red of tomorrow will be large, tall, firm of substance and pure cardinal, right down to its "roots," beard and all. The red of the new gladiolus Mid-America is very close. If they can do it, so can we, given a little more time. Let's look at—

### THE LIGHT BLUES

Gloriole is first here and Azure Skies second. There isn't any pure blue in either one. They are pale lavenders. In some of our later introductions we are a little closer but we have a long way to go to achieve the azure blues to be found in our modern myosotis and delphiniums. And so we could go on. Finally—

### THE PLICATAS

In this group San Francisco and Los Angeles are still rated above the newer Blue Shimmer. According to that we haven't produced a better plicata in twenty years. But the plicata of the future will possess much finer plant habits and hardiness plus the size of Los Angeles with the standards either pure white or very pale bluish-white and the falls will have a one-half inch blue ruffle sewed on to a pure white skirt. It will flare just enough to show off the ruffle.

No—you iris breeders, you are just at the portal of a new day in creating the masterpieces of the future. And may each of you, if you keep at it—produce one.

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### SOCIETY LOSES DISTINGUISHED MEMBER

Many hundreds of our members will learn with sorrow of the death last March 30 of Dr. Harry H. Everett at his home in Lincoln, Nebraska. A past president of the Society and long-time member of the Board of Directors, Dr. Everett was one of the foremost builders of the present organization. An In Memoriam tribute to him will appear in the next BULLETIN.

# *Just Thinking It Over*

W. F. SCOTT, JR. (Mo.)

One of the most amazing things about iris as a hobby is the endless promise held forth. The collector of stamps or other inanimate objects usually finds that such hobbies wear thin after a while. At first there is the thrill of new items, but after a while the thrill dulls, and in most cases loses its appeal after a few years. Not so with iris, though! Quite the contrary!

The "beginner" is usually sort of dazed for a year or two. The terms and phases tossed so casually about in most of the BULLETIN articles have a hazy meaning, at best. He can't quite get the idea. Sure, they're pretty flowers, but why all this rumpus about them? Then, slowly, he begins to "know his iris" and begins to appreciate the many things which before had been "beyond" him. Each blooming season teaches him a few new things, and reiterates those learned earlier. Each new season to come holds promise of new things to be learned.

All the articles in all the BULLETINS are not worth nearly so much as a few seasons of actual experience in your own back yard. Member Jones, in Massachusetts, sends in "Varietal Comments"; so does Member Smith in Texas and Member Brown in California. But the comments don't "jibe" with the facts of your own back yard. Of course they don't! While certain over-all patterns can be established by such comments, the best test is what you see in your own garden. If your garden is not suited, by reason of climate, soil, drainage, and situation, to certain varieties, only you can find it out. Because of this, one of the most valuable things to be derived from a reading of varietal comments is a sharpening of your perception, a reminder of what to look for.

There is no substitute for experience—experience in the form of repeated observation. So don't be hasty—don't say "this is good!" or "this is bad!" quickly. You may say "this looks good." Or "I don't like the way this looks!" In other words, don't mentally climb out on a limb. Wait, and look again . . . and still again!

During the past season I was visiting with a well known hybridizer in his back yard. He pointed out a nice clump, and asked, "What do you think of this?" It was a beautiful flower. I won't



attempt to describe it, so that it may remain anonymous. The stalk was tall, well branched, and sturdy. The foliage was neat and erect. The flower was well formed, nicely ruffled, and pleasing in color. There were many buds on each stalk. I took two pictures of it, from different angles, and have studied them many times. Upon the basis of my one observation, I would say it is a beautiful thing, worthy of a name. The hybridizer, however, wants to look a little longer. Mind you, he has seen this flower bloom for three seasons, but he still is not completely satisfied with its quality; he wants to look a little longer.

Now that I have dragged the matter of naming varieties into these scattered comments, more or less by the hind leg, I am reminded of several rather heated remarks which have appeared in recent issues of the BULLETIN anent the proposal to eliminate from the Check List, and make available for re-use, the names of old varieties no longer in commerce.

Despite the several vociferous objections, it seems to be a sound idea. It appears unlikely that any serious effort is still made to propagate iris originated and named prior to, say 1920. If the search for discardable names were confined to such old varieties, and if those which, in their day, received awards of any important kind were protected, it seems only reasonable to release for new use the names of gone and forgotten varieties. True, ingenuity can still produce unused variations on the themes, "Golden" and "Pink" and "Blue" and "Majesty" but why make the Check List look like the Manhattan Directory?

Something I have noticed in recent issues of the BULLETIN is most heartening—the appearance of new names. Really quite a few of them. Among them are hybridizers who are bringing forth excellent iris. For quite a spell the honors seemed equally divided between a comparatively small number of prominent breeders . . . so equally divided, in fact, that many persons began to believe in the existence of an "inner circle" within our Society. True, such an "inner circle" did exist—but not the kind you might conclude. It was merely the fact that serious work in hybridizing has been carried on by a comparatively small number of persons up to fairly recent times, and it was just the working of the old laws of genetics and probability which produced for those persons the majority of well-known new iris. The field of hybridizing began to broaden out amazingly a few years back, and those same old

natural and mathematical laws are now beginning to work in favor of a broader number of persons. With this increase in the number of successful hybridizers, we naturally inherit the headache of increasing numbers of new introductions, but we will also get finer flowers quicker.

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## *Good Companions*

MRS. FRED H. CLUTTON, (ILL.)

"A little article about irises that bloom together?" No sooner requested than "I take pen in hand," for, next to reading about irises there's nothing more fun than writing about them. So I'll begin with a grouping of the earliest tall white iris to bloom in my garden, Snow Belle, with Gloriole and a pink. The latter has been changed from time to time, and heretofore I've used pink blends, but this coming summer I plan to place Spindrift here, for its height, season, and coloring will be right. Taller New Horizon would be charming here, also. And now we have lovely New Snow for an early white I'll recommend it in place of Snow Belle.

Another Spindrift combination that I like is with Great Lakes and either Red Amber or Elmohr.

In a stage aside allow me to mention, here, that in order to shorten the phrase "new pink with red beard" or some similar one, I use simply the term b & b (for "bud and beard"—both pink, or red). Several of my friends have adopted the phrase, and we retain the word "pink" for pink blends or orchid pinks. If anyone cares to join us in the simplification, the idea isn't copyrighted.

In general, I find that b & bs look best with the clearer blues, with Blue Shimmer, cold whites, and blue violets.

Stardom is a charming iris that is not easy to place in the garden, but it finds good neighbors in Fair Elaine and Great Lakes. Indeed, Great Lakes is so delightful a companion for almost any iris that it is a joy to possess. The same is true of many of the clearer light blues. They not only combine easily with almost



any color, but they also make pinks, reds, and yellows seem clearer toned than when they are seen in less acceptable combinations or alone.

Moonlight Madonna's clear cool lemony yellow is another color that is charming in itself and is congenial with others. Its medium height and dependable, floriferous growth are other qualities that make for easy adaptability.

Master Charles is agreeably used with either or both of these two good mixers; or Pink Reflection and a blue white such as Katherine Fay.

Ola Kala, despite its rich deep yellow tone which one might imagine difficult to use, however lovely to see alone, is really a charming companion for many other varieties. Almost any of the midseason to late blues look well with it; rich red Velvet Mantle and warm toned Snow Velvet complement it delightfully, as do Deep Velvet and Blue Rhythm.

Elmohr and Barrimohr, of somewhat similar coloring, associate congenially with blue whites, pure whites, or delicate creams; with Pink Reflection or b & bs; with Cloud Castle or similarly toned blues. But they do not look well with Melanie, which much prefers to be near N. J. Thomas, another Mohr hybrid, but with more blue in its tone. Melanie's tones blend well with those of Great Lakes and Master Charles and with blue whites, but not with yellows or whites with much yellow in them, such as Arctic or Snow Velvet.

Ruth Pollock I found difficult to place, but finally chose a pale yellow seedling as companion. Almost any early blooming pale yellow, such as Golden Treasure or Sweet Alibi should be good with it.

Reds are perhaps as difficult as any tones to use in the garden. Red Gleam and Edward Lapham both combine well with any white, be it cold or warm, or with such early pale blues as Mountain Sky or Sylvia Murray.

Two iris seasons have passed since last I took any notes on good garden combinations, so this year I must surely fasten various blossoms in turn to a stake and carry them around, one by one, to see which combinations are most pleasing, and bring myself up to date.

# *Iris Virus*

EVA E. FAUGHT, (Ill.)

Iris virus is an epidemic disease of man caused by a specific virus which is transmitted from person to person through its intermediate host, the genus *Iris*.

Iris virus seems to have been little known until about twenty years ago and then it ran a very mild course. Since that time, its infectivity and virulence have increased at a rapid rate. According to the records of 1948 there are now in the neighborhood of four thousand known cases scattered throughout the United States, Canada, England, Australia, Europe and Africa.

There are several strains of the virus. Along the swamps and bayous of the southern United States we find an ever increasing number of cases of virus *fulva*, virus *foliosa*, virus *giganticaerulea* and virus *hexagona*. But virus *sibirica*, virus *spuria* and virus *tall-beardia* are widely scattered throughout the United States. Virus *tall-beardia* is now very scarce in the Deep South but it is likely to assume epidemic proportions there just as soon as tall bearded irises that can withstand the diseases of moist hot climates are developed.

The onset of iris virus can usually be traced directly to a visit to a spring flower show, to a garden tour, to the receipt of a gorgeously illustrated iris catalog or to a long look over or through a neighbor's fence. Yes, some lucky people still have tight board fences, complete with padlock on the gate. How useful they are, securing not only protection but sometimes just a little privacy.

Cases of iris virus are hard to locate. Those infected tend to flock together in groups for the purpose of "patch" talk, of admiration and perhaps of a little envy of one another's newest creations. They attend regional and national meetings, visit gardens busily taking notes about this and that, talking to themselves and to others in the mumbo-jumbo jargon of Irisland.

But home returned with a "Booster" shot of virus in their veins, they are again introverted individualists with a feverish desire to achieve a collection of the Best One Hundred, the Best Two Hundred, the Best Three Hundred, all of the Dykes Medal winners and



all of the others which they have selected as Must Haves which are not on the foregoing lists, and then they begin to cross and cross and cross and to dig and dig and dig in the hope of producing a world beater. No time or energy is left for talking or for thinking of anything except a bigger and better iris. There is time for no one except possibly another iris virus victim. The health officer can locate his patient only by a canvass of garden plots and a study of their contents. In case of a high board fence with a padlock on its gate, a helicopter would be indispensable.

There is no known method of alleviating the disease. There is no known method of acquiring immunity. The only possible immunity is of the natural variety and strangely enough some people do seem to remain naturally immune throughout life though that is not properly understood at the present time. It would seem that a little research into the problem might prove both interesting and profitable.

Thus far the only possible method of prevention of iris virus is to so isolate or quarantine those not naturally immune that they can have no slightest contact visual or otherwise with any species of the genus *Iris*.

The prognosis is poor. There is seldom any abatement of the fever—no cure at all for the disease. The fortunate victim of iris virus lives on year after year eagerly anticipating April, May and June, The Season—Iris Season, of course. He rides or he flies from south to north, from west to east or in contrary directions depending upon his location, feverishly trying to miss no section, no known iris garden, and there have come to be an astonishing number of iris gardens in these United States of ours!

Somewhere along the route he snatches a day or two to visit his own iris garden and make a few crosses with pollen gathered on the Pacific Coast, in New England, in the South, in the Middle West or perhaps with some flown in from England or from Australia.

Iris virus may confer upon him the gift of immortality for really *when* would there be time to die? He *must* be here next spring and next spring *ad infinitum* to see that perfect iris which he *knows* is in one of those beautiful seed pods ripening out there in the patch under a hot July sun.

Iris virus, may it become pandemic!

# *The “Average Member”*

CHARLES I. COLDSMITH, (KANS.)

It is with real satisfaction and profit that I receive the AIS BULLETIN. But I ask myself, Why do I belong to the Society and delight in receiving its magazine? I rather think the answer must be found in my understanding of the objectives of the Society and the character of its membership.

As to the first, it would seem that at times the primary objective of the BULLETIN is to popularize some new iris, for they are mentioned again and again in article after article. As I read these comments about certain iris, it occurs to me that these new things must be the last and final word and that perfection has been achieved. I must confess that I have to put the brakes on my enthusiasm, else I might spend the entire year's iris budget for one or two plants (which might not be such a bad idea after all).

Then I rearrange my prejudices and realize again that that is not the fact at all. The BULLETIN is the quickest and surest way for the knowledge of these fine new things to be passed on to the membership of the Society. Anyone interested in really good iris must feel a sense of satisfaction and appreciation for the many fine plants that come yearly from those who give so freely of time and effort in the production of the new and beautiful in iris.

It may be true that most of us will have to wait for these new things, but waiting is not without its compensations, for I have noticed that time proves the worth, or lack of worth, of a lot of things, iris included. Some of those that were lauded so highly a few years back have faded from the contemporary scene, evidently not quite measuring up to the high expectations that accompanied their introduction.

As to the second part of the answer—the character of the people that make up the membership of the Society—I rather assume that they represent a cross-section of our citizens. I notice the names of doctors, teachers, engineers, ministers, priests, housewives—Oh well, just the every-day kind of folks that represent real America. If that be true, then the bulk of the membership is neither rich nor poor, but just ordinary people engaged in the various tasks



of life and yet all having one thing in common—a mutual love of flowers. We represent that group of whom Lincoln spoke when he said, "God must have loved common folks; He made so many of us."

Of course that means that our gardens will be just as common and average as we are. We will be glad for those whose gardens are the show places, revealing the infinite possibilities of the flowers in which we are interested, but for most of us the new creations will be conspicuous by their absence. Our work will be with the older varieties whether we simply grow them for the fun of seeing beautiful flowers or whether we attempt a few crosses now and then. Many of these older ones still continue to rank with the best of the newer creations even though it has been years since they were introduced.

This then raises another query, Why do we fool with iris at all? For most of us it is not a method of financial return. If we can make our hobby pay expenses we are doing very well indeed. The answer, then, must be that we do it for the relaxation and pleasure that comes from seeing a beautiful flower, especially if that flower is one that we ourselves have produced. What could be more conducive to a day of satisfaction and pleasure than to begin it by watching one of your own flowers open in the varying shades of morning light?

Something of that delight and pleasure is open to us even with our limited varieties. If I remember correctly, *Prairie Sunset* came from three flowers—two old ones, *Rameses* and *Midgard*, and the third, *Sandlewood*, not so terribly new. Many of us have some of these older ones and doubtless quite a few have some much newer. So the possibilities are present with us. Some few years ago I crossed *Jean Cayeux* and *Wambliska*. From this cross I kept one seedling, a large vigorous, well branched cream flower. In turn I crossed this cream seedling with a *Sass* bronze seedling. From this cross I secured, among others, a fair sized cream-pink self, with a glowing tangerine beard. I must confess that I got up an hour earlier than usual the morning that this flower bloomed, just to watch it unfold in the weird light of the dawning day. I am not deceiving myself about it at all, but I must admit that I received a real thrill as I saw that beautiful flower come into bloom. One of my neighbors saw it that day and admired it very much.

Next day she came again, saying, "Well, I just had to see Orange Sherbet again today," and "Orange Sherbet" it has been ever since.

Now we have plants from Orange Sherbet crossed with Loomis SQ 72, which should bloom this spring. Well, that's just pure fun. And there is a lot more fun ahead also. But here is where the BULLETIN comes in again. I read and re-read the sections of the report of the Scientific Committee concerning the origin and characteristics of the tangerine beard. The recommendation that certain crosses be made with the tangerine beards was not difficult to follow, for some of those named were older iris. Last fall we planted over 500 seed from these crosses. That is why I say there is fun ahead. I realize full well that most of these will not be tangerine beards, but I also know that many fine iris have come from such crosses and that they come in a wide variety of colors. Part of the pleasure of crossing is the anticipation of what MAY happen.

There is still another source of pleasure that comes to us all, regardless of the character of the garden that we may have. That is the fact that so many people share its beauty with us. It is still true that a beauty shared as well as a blessing shared is only increased by the sharing. We happen to live on a well-used street leading to the business section of the town. Hundreds of people pass by every day. And when the flowers are blooming, strangers as well as friends stop to talk and visit. Isn't it strange that a common interest in things breaks down the barriers that keep us strangers to each other? Or is it? At any rate people whom we have never seen before, stop, look and then we begin to talk. And more than one friendship has been made and life enriched by sharing a mutual interest. We have gained by sharing.

Such is the possibility of just an ordinary flower garden. Why belong? Because we like to know the progress that is being made in the hobby in which we are interested. Who are we? Just folks that love flowers, willing to work with them, knowing full well that they will return to us the joy of beautiful things. And the joy will be increased because we have helped that beauty to expression. Realizing that most of us will never produce the top notchers, we can still have abundant pleasure and satisfaction out of a hobby that adds brightness and joy to living, and shows us something of the handiwork of God.



## *The Deep South Develops - - -*

### **A New Race of Garden Irises**

IRA S. NELSON, (La.)

*R. V. P., Region 10*

Upon our annual trek to see iris gardens in Region 10, it became apparent to me that the big story from this area concerned the development of an idea rather than individuals, gardens or irises. Briefly, this idea relates to the up-breeding of a race of garden irises from native types which abound in the wild over much of the region. The idea was born in the southern portion of Region 10, where the tall bearded varieties do not thrive. The growing of the Louisiana natives is now rapidly spreading. It is with extreme pride that I give account of these activities which are destined to spread over the entire Southland.

In New Orleans the public school system again held its annual contest for the best school garden of native Louisiana irises. Mr. James McArthur, who originated this contest, deserves a great deal of credit for the splendid showing made in the school gardens. His enthusiasm and ability have greatly furthered the interest in Louisiana irises in the New Orleans area.

*Home Gardening for the South*, published in New Orleans, has done much to stimulate interest in the growing of native Louisiana irises. Many of its subscribers live in areas where tall bearded irises cannot be successfully grown.

In Napoleonville on Bayou Lafourche, a native iris show was held in Madewood, the beautiful ante-bellum home of Mr. and Mrs. Bronier Thibaut. This show, staged by Mrs. Maggie Martin Pugh and Miss Elmina Thibaut, was a part of the annual New Orleans Spring Fiesta pilgrimage to old homes in the area. Lockett's Luck, a flesh pink variety, was the center of attraction.

The breeding efforts of Dr. George Arceneaux of Houma, Louisiana, are paying off in splendid hybrids. Although his best varieties were incidental to basic genetic research with this group of plants, Dr. Arceneaux has produced a splendid lot of yellows. The varieties Aline Martin and Helen Smith are among his best.

The Society for Louisiana Irises, all of whose members belong





Calvin Blue photo

"Now here's a shade that just isn't on the chart!" W. B. MacMillan and Mrs. Joe G. Richard try to find a color patch to match one of the Louisiana blossoms.

to the American Iris Society, held a most successful show and meeting on the campus of Southwestern Louisiana Institute in April (reported in this issue.—Ed.).

Baton Rouge gardens are always worth seeing. Especially fine seedlings were produced by Joe Richard and Claude Davis, President-elect of the Society for Louisiana Irises. We regret not being able to see many of the fine collections of this city.

In the Covington area the Owen Heyers have a splendid collection. A flesh colored variety was sent to the writer by the Heyers for the trial garden. After a two-day express trip this variety completed its bloom in a perfectly normal manner.

If you've never seen Mac's (W. B. MacMillan's) garden in Abbeville, you still have irises to see. Mac not only grows many of the best of the named varieties, but he always comes up with a good crop of seedlings. The varieties Peggy Mac and Bayou



Sunset are features of this garden.

Marie Caillet of Lafayette, although an apartment dweller, manages to grow a few irises. She has a collection of the virginica type from the Lake Charles area that stayed in constant bloom for over a month.

The garden of Mrs. E. P. Arceneaux features the originations of Dr. George Arceneaux. Edith Dupre is the best early variety there.

The foliosas in the garden of the Ray Cornays were quite good this year. All are collected sorts. Mrs. Cornay grows these chiefly to use in arrangements. The cleanest of blues are to be found in the foliosa group.

A combination of inclement weather conditions for the past two years has had a telling effect on the irises of Alexandria. Even so, Mrs. D. Randolph Kerper came through with a splendid pink seedling. Hamilton Robertson had a nice crepe-violet seedling. The bloom at Blyth Rand's was not up to its usual standard. From the number of seedlings she has growing, we are assured of one grand sight next year. Alexandria's off season has not dampened the enthusiasm for native irises.

Miss Caroline Dormon must build good mouse traps; the world has certainly beaten a path to her door. Even though she would have a complete failure, we would still go there to enjoy her stimulating conversation, but I must confess her seedlings are always an added attraction. A royal purple with a huge gold patch blinded me to at least a half dozen other top notch new seedlings there.

Sidney Conger's garden in Arcadia gets the nod on pinks and bicolours. Although we did not see his pinks at their best, we saw enough to convince us he has them. One of his bicolours is getting toward an amoena.

Twenty-four hours in Shreveport is not enough to see nearly all of the gardens there. We did see a good clump of Mellow Gleam at Minnie Colquitt's. It is worthy of a place in any garden.

Mrs. Sally Smith had a wonderful display of named varieties as well as unnamed collected sorts and seedlings. Her blue seedling is one of the finest blues seen. Our best description of it is that it is a medium blue Peggy Mac.

Mrs. Lenora Mathews has just about everything in native irises.





Dr. Herbert Dozier photo

Louisiana irises grow tall beneath high shade in the Shreveport garden of Mrs. W. R. Mathews. Mrs. Mathews (right) enjoys the bloom with "Ike" Nelson and Minnie Colquitt.

One of her collected Abbeville Reds is a real wheel-horse. We thought a flaring pastel lilac with bitone tendencies to be extra good. Its lacy appearance set it apart.

The garden of Mrs. C. C. Clark was beautiful. Had we seen no more than Gay Deceiver our trip there would have been a success. This variety, although not large, is showy because of its ruffled flaring form and golden bronze tones.

Mrs. Clair Gorton's garden on the lake, although relatively new, boasts practically all of the show winners of previous years.





Dr. Herbert Dozier photo

"A blue Peggy Mac" is the description applied to this new seedling in Mrs. Alex Smith's garden at Shreveport. It has the fine broad-petaled form of the well known MacMillan variety.

While in Shreveport, we had the pleasure of a visit with Mrs. Lillian Trichel. Although still on crutches from a serious fall, we found her sunny disposition as bright as her origination, Caddo.

It is interesting to note that Caddo and Miss Dormon's royal purple seedling with the huge crest both have Haile Selassie as one parent. They are quite similar except that the former is a dark velvet red and the other a royal purple. Besides these, Haile Selassie has sired Peggy Mac and a number of unnamed seedlings of great promise. Haile Selassie is not only the best of its type but is proving to be of great value as breeding stock.



In Arkansas Frank Chowning is "going big guns" breeding Louisiana natives. His Dixie Deb, an outstanding yellow and Accolade, a pink, are proof of his ability.

The people mentioned are but a few of those who are helping create a race of irises for the Deep South. Region 10, although small, is playing a major role in the development of this idea. One day all of the South will have iris varieties growing in its gardens.

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## LOUISIANA OFFICERS

*At a business meeting held prior to the annual show at Lafayette, the Society for Louisiana Irises elected officers as follows for 1949:*

PRESIDENT—Mr. Claude V. Davis, 470 Delgado Drive, Baton Rouge, La.

VICE-PRESIDENT—Mrs. Asbury S. Parks, 2905 Amherst, Houston, Texas.

SECRETARY-TREASURER—Miss Marie Caillet, Box 365, S. L. I. Station, Lafayette, Louisiana.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD—

Mr. Owen H. Heyer, Box 725, Covington, La.

Mrs. John F. Kerper, Rt. 1, Box 158, Pineville, La.

Mrs. J. C. Roberts, R. F. D. 3, Baton Rouge 16, La.

Mr. William Livingston, 2608 Shell Beach Drive, Lake Charles, La.

Prof. Ira S. Nelson, Box 26, S. L. I. Station, Lafayette, La.

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## LOUISIANA IRIS SUCCEED IN TROPICS

In a conversation with Wilson Popenoe, well known plant explorer and now president of an agricultural college at Tegucigalpa, Honduras, I obtained an item of interest to iris growers. He had tried a large variety of irises there with poor success except for the Louisianas, which did very well. Can we not strengthen our own membership in the Deep South and the Tropics by promoting the extension of the Louisiana group into this territory?

—Roswell H. Johnson, Los Angeles, Calif.

## RIGHT NEIGHBORHOOD— WRONG GARDEN

Dr. Franklin Cook calls our attention to the fact that the "David Hall garden" picture we used with Ray Belsley's "Illinois Observations" in the January BULLETIN was actually made in his (Dr. Cook's) former garden on Sheridan Road in Evanston. Well, we *did* wonder how Mr. Hall's garage got turned around, but decided our memory of the pink bud haven was faulty. The photograph, with erring information, was in a file we inherited.

Anyway, the garden was pretty enough to be Mr. Hall's . . . and that's high praise, Doctor!—Ed.



## *Another Successful Show*

GLADYS CALHOUN CASE, (La.)

Yes, the Louisiana irises have come into their own. Over twenty-five years ago a few botanists were out searching the swamps for rare specimens. They were the pioneers, hardy and persistent. They led the way that others have followed. The results are almost unbelievable until you have visited one of the shows put on by the Society for Louisiana Irises. This year's show, held on April 2 and 3 in the Agriculture building of Southwestern Louisiana Institute, Lafayette, Louisiana, climaxed one of the most successful seasons and annual meetings in the history of the society.

The horticultural section was so laid out that the exhibits were a part of a large formal garden bordered by a ligustrum hedge. The beds of irises were accentuated by statuary and borders of monkey grass, with roses, lilies, nierembergia and thrift adding to the attractiveness of the garden.

Winners of the horticultural section were declared by popular vote of the society's members in attendance on Saturday afternoon. The "Best Iris of the Show" was a seedling of Lockett's Luck, last year's show winner. It is an exquisite light blue bloom of huge proportions with a diamond-shaped patch accentuating its beauty. The top five favorites in the voting were as follows:

1. Seedling, entered by Mr. and Mrs. Joe G. Richard, Baton Rouge, La.
2. Helen Smith, entered by Mrs. E. P. Arceneaux, Lafayette, La.
3. Peggy Mac, entered by W. B. MacMillan, Abbeville, La.
4. Collected blue, entered by G. W. Holleyman, Lake Charles, La.
5. Pink seedling, entered by Mr. and Mrs. Joe G. Richard, Baton Rouge, La.

The first place award, a large silver tray, is given by the men's civic clubs of Lafayette each year and is presented to the owner of the winning iris at the annual banquet following each show.

The arrangement section handled by the Lafayette Garden Club added a new phase to the 1949 show. Usage of these flowers was



Calvin Blue photo

"Best Iris of the Show" at Lafayette is held by Joe G. Richard, while Mrs. Richard displays the silver trophy it won. At right Prof. Ira Nelson has a blossom of Plur Good, his 1946 winner.

ably demonstrated in both mass and line arrangements. Mrs. W. E. Trimble of Crowley, La., walked off with first place in all four sections. Complete results were as follows:

Class I (Luncheon Table Arrangements) First—Mrs. W. E. Trimble, Crowley, La.; Second—Mrs. Jack Fulkerson, Crowley, La.; Third—Mrs. F. H. Rhymes, Lafayette, La.

Class II (Mass Arrangements) First—Mrs. W. E. Trimble, Crowley, La.; Second—Mrs. Jack Fulkerson, Crowley, La.

Class III (Line Arrangements) First—Mrs. W. E. Trimble, Crowley, La.; Second—Mrs. F. H. Rhymes, Lafayette, La.; Third—Mrs. Louis Mann, Lafayette, La.

Class IV (Arrangements for a Gentleman's Den) First—Mrs. W. E. Trimble, Crowley, La.; Second—Mrs. Vincent Daigle, Crowley, La.; Third—Mrs. Jack Fulkerson, Crowley, La.

The faculty and students of the Home Economics Department of Southwestern added charm to the show by serving a delightful tea on both days of the event. This feature has become a tradition of the annual show and is an example of the hospitality extended



members and visitors during the three-day meeting.

So ended another show with top attendance. Each year the number increases with a greater number coming from out of town and out of state. The interest in the native iris grows as the iris itself improves and becomes more colorful. "Once the bug bites you . . ." as our new president was heard to say, and the unended sentence was filled with unspoken eloquence.

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## CALIFORNIA REBUTTAL

Commenting on short-comings of judges' ratings, Dr. E. L. Clark takes to task judges of Region 15 (page 50, April BULLETIN) who put down maximum ratings for hardiness for all varieties. He adds, "The fact (that they) gave us no information about relative hardiness suggests that their judgments in other categories are not very trustworthy."

Is the Doctor aware that Region 15 is Southern California and that reports of uniform hardiness should occasion no surprise? I have been growing irises in the vicinity of Los Angeles since 1932 and have not yet lost one on account of lack of hardiness—not even during our most recent unprecedented winter. Every tall bearded iris in my garden rates 100% for hardiness. Over the years I have grown perhaps 500 different varieties, with 200 the maximum at any one time; also 700 or 800 seedlings each year. I still don't know, from my own experience, that there is such a thing as "relative" hardiness, as far as tall bearded iris go.

—Roy W. Fielding, San Gabriel, Calif.

It can only be assumed by this native son that the good Doctor has not bothered to read up on Southern California weather. I hate to let him in on the secret, but the fact is that up to now, at least, all tall bearded iris have been winter hardy here. They were even this winter just passed when we experienced snow (a foreign word) and the temperature went all the way down to 20 above in some places. So, any judge in this area who put anything but the maximum 10 for hardiness would be just kidding himself and also the creators of the monstrosity called "Regional Performance Ratings."

—Ralph Conrad, Los Angeles, Calif.

# *Hemerocallis and Oriental Poppies in the Iris Garden*

MRS. THOMAS NESMITH, (Mass.)

*This interesting paper, brought to our attention through the thoughtfulness of Mr. Harold W. Knowlton, was delivered by Mrs. Nesmith at Horticultural Hall in Boston last year at one of the monthly meetings of the Society's New England Region.*

Appreciation of color is universal, whether in a flaming sunset, a painting, or in our gardens, and a satisfactory garden depends largely on the arrangement and continuance of color through the season. In planning gardens, many have a tendency to concentrate on spring and early summer effects, giving little thought to late summer, when often the garden is void of interest.

To combat this, we are fortunate in having the newer *hemerocallis* (daylilies), for unlike most perennials they are at their height of bloom during July and August. To me, *hemerocallis* are indispensable in the garden, whether used in clumps as accents or in border planting, for most of these new *hemerocallis* have a blooming season of a month or more. Therefore their great value cannot be emphasized too strongly, especially in the iris garden. First, I think it will prove interesting for me to give you a brief history of *hemerocallis*, and the work of earlier hybridizers.

Not so many years ago, the mention of daylilies brought to most minds only the two old time favorites, *Flava*, the sweetly scented lemon lily that blooms in June, and *Fulva*, the tawny lily, flowering in July, so often found growing in great masses around old abandoned farm houses in our New England States. Both of these are native to China, and have been in cultivation for several centuries. They were sent to America in the early days of our colonization. *Hemerocallis* are native to China and Japan, and during the 18th and 19th centuries ten or more additional species were found in the Orient and sent to Europe and America.

In 1890 Mr. George Yeld, an eminent horticulturist of England, commenced hybridizing some of these species and soon after 1892



introduced to trade the variety Apricot; it is one of the best early flowering hemerocallis even at the present day. In America, the first breeding of hemerocallis was by Mr. Bertrand Farr in 1910, and one of these hybrids, Ophir, is worthy of a place among the newer hemerocallis. In 1913 or thereabouts Dr. A. B. Stout of the New York Botanical Garden commenced crossing the different species of hemerocallis, and from this, after several years, such varieties as Mikado, Wau-Bun, Vesta, and Cinnabar were introduced to the public. Dr. Stout has done more in bringing into prominence the hemerocallis than any other person, not only by producing many beautiful varieties, but by his writings on the subject.

At about the same time Mr. Carl Betscher of Dover, Ohio, was breeding hemerocallis, and in 1927, Mr. Johnson, and one of the Messrs. Wyman of the Bay State Nurseries paid a visit to this man's garden, and were so pleased with his seedlings that they selected and purchased several, and in 1929 put several on the market, among them, Mrs. W. H. Wyman, Mrs. A. H. Austin, D. D. Wyman, and Cressida.

My interest in hemerocallis started over twenty years ago when I began to realize the importance of them in the garden. At that time I had most of the species and early hybrids, and from then on I collected from near and far, many from England and the Orient. Soon I began hybridizing them, introducing my first seedlings in 1933; they were Crown of Gold and Gay Day. Since then I have devoted a goodly amount of time to breeding hemerocallis, and have worked to produce larger flowers with clear colors and heavy substance that will withstand hot sun, also to improve the branching and strength of flowering stalk, and increase the number of buds, thus trying to lengthen the season of bloom, for this is a great asset of the modern hemerocallis.

Mr. Hans Sass of Bennington, Nebraska, whom all of us know for his wonderful success in creating many of our finest iris and peonies, found time in his busy life to breed several fine hemerocallis. The two that I like best are Golden West and Hesperus, both very handsome yellows. Mr. Hans has retired from active work, but his nephew, Henry E. Sass, son of the late Mr. Jacob Sass, is carrying on the breeding work of these two great men. I have several of his seedlings growing in my garden which he sent

on for me to judge. Some of you may not know that The Iris Society of England awarded the Foster Memorial Plaque to these brothers, but due to the death of Mr. Jacob, only Mr. Hans was at the Annual Meeting of the AIS in Evanston, Illinois, last June (1947) to receive it. This is the highest honor The Iris Society can give to a horticulturist.

The late Mr. Franklin B. Mead of Fort Wayne, Indiana, an ardent iris fancier and an artist to his finger tips, was a lover of all things beautiful, and at the time of his death had the most artistic and up-to-date iris garden that it has been my good fortune to see. To him goes the honor of creating Hyperion, one of the most popular pale yellow hemerocallis of the present day. It was introduced in 1930.

Dr. E. J. Kraus, head of botany at the University of Chicago, has the most extensive collection of hemerocallis in existence for he has gotten together most of the species and named varieties that have been put into commerce throughout the world. He is doing extensive hybridizing, keeping careful records, and at his country place in Wisconsin he grows thousands of seedlings, and the best are chosen for further selective breeding. He has produced some wonderful seedlings. Although we have had a great deal of correspondence, it was not until last June at the time of the AIS Annual Meeting that we had the pleasure of meeting him, and it was one of the high spots of the trip. Mr. H. M. Russell of Spring, Texas, grows acres of hemerocallis seedlings and hybridizes in a colossal manner. I have a good many of his named varieties growing in my garden to be observed and judged.

Among other breeders of hemerocallis are Paul Cook of Bluffton, Indiana, one of our foremost iris hybridizers, Geddes Douglas of Nashville, Tennessee, and P. I. Merry of Needham, Massachusetts. They have all produced excellent hemerocallis.

Mr. Elmer A. Claar has done more to acquaint flower lovers with the newer hemerocallis than any other person in America. He is a great daylily enthusiast, and each year travels many miles visiting the gardens of hemerocallis breeders, taking movies and Kodachromes of those he likes and thinks worthy of introduction. It is a rare treat to spend an evening seeing his collection of pictures. In his beautiful garden at Northfield, Illinois, he grows the best of the modern hemerocallis. He has written many articles for dif-



ferent periodicals, and doubtless you have read some of them.

There has been formed a hemerocallis society called the Midwest Hemerocallis Society. They have more than seven hundred members and are doing excellent work in informing their members about the better hemerocallis. They have a registrar (M. Frederick Stuntz, also an AIS leader) to whom all names must be submitted before introduction, and he has done a splendid piece of work in straightening out duplication of names. They are planning regional organizations somewhat similar to ours, in order to carry on the work of arranging regional meetings and judging. The February issue of *Flower Grower* carried an article on the best hemerocallis, written by Mrs. R. E. Richards, (then) Vice-President of the society.

In planning for succession of hemerocallis bloom throughout the summer commence with the earlier flowering varieties of late May and early June. These are very effective planted with all shades of blue beardless iris, especially the spurias and Siberians, for the early hemerocallis are in shades of yellow and orange. Use the shorter ones for border planting, and those of taller growth between the clumps of iris.

A beautiful combination in late June and July is the use of the pale yellow and pink hemerocallis with the first flowering of blue and white delphiniums. Choose hemerocallis with tall, well branched stalks. Plant the hemerocallis just a little in front of the delphiniums, so that their clean arched foliage will tend to conceal the empty spaces left when the delphiniums are cut back after blooming. The hemerocallis that bloom in August and early September may be used to advantage in this same planting for they will bloom with the second flowering of the delphiniums. The gardens of most iris enthusiasts are devoted mainly to iris, and whereas they are a riot of color in June, after that they are apt to be dull and devoid of interest. Try some of the hemerocallis interspersed in the beds for their foliage is not obtrusive in iris time, but their blooms in July and August will make your garden as gay and festive as it was earlier in the season.

Whenever the beauty of an evening garden is considered, blue delphiniums, regal lilies, and pale yellow evening blooming hemerocallis make a charming picture. Not enough attention is given to these evening flowering varieties for they are ideal to plant in





Caldwell photo

Irises in May and daylilies in June give D. R. McKeithan of Bartlesville, Okla., an interesting succession of bloom in his immaculately kept garden.

proximity to an outdoor living room, and as the shadows lengthen, then comes the time to enjoy the fragrant waxen bells of yellow that stand out as stars in twilight. A few clumps of these can make a great difference in this part of the garden.

One hemerocallis enthusiast is making a collection of all evening bloomers for she finds them unique and lovely to use for dinner



table decoration. This is quite an ingenious idea and one that I have copied with very happy results. For a perennial border, use a foundation of varying tones of pink and clear yellow *hemerocallis*; against this groups of the brilliant red and purple varieties will stand out and show their true beauty. A planting of this kind is most satisfactory back of a front border planting of iris. Also I like to use these deeper colors as focal points in the garden.

A pastel grouping is *Hosta fortunei* with its tall spikes of pale lavender and frosty green foliage flanked by salmon pink and chamois yellow *hemerocallis*. Also use *fortunei* to border a half shaded pool with clumps of tall pink or yellow *hemerocallis* at the corners as accents. Do not be afraid of daring combinations; they will add individuality to a planting. For stunning effect use deep reds and rich yellows against a background of rhododendrons or any other heavy foliage. I find them most decorative planted back of our box hedges.

Some of the red, pink and pastel shades will have added charm if given partial shade. Under dogwoods, flowering crabs or any spreading tree with not too heavy foliage is an ideal place. Imagine such a planting, alight with pink, purple, cream and velvety red, the colors varied but harmonious, and you will have some idea of their indefinable charm. Few can resist the beauty of the modern *hemerocallis*, and when you know them, you will appreciate their great beauty and usefulness in the garden.

Having given you these details about *hemerocallis*, I will now turn to the Oriental poppies. The species of the Oriental poppy which is brick red with black base spots is native to the mountain plains of what was Persia. Plants or seeds were sent to England about 1714. About thirty years later, cuttings and seeds were sent to America by Peter Collinson, an eminent English botanist, in an exchange of plants with John Bartram, one of America's most noted botanists of that time and founder of the first botanical garden in America. Many years later, this species was crossed with another, named *bracteatum*; this one had no base spots, and was a little more pleasing in its red color. From this crossing there came a few variations in color, a few near salmons and several of orange tones.

In more recent years, much careful work has been done in selective breeding, and at the present time there are several varieties of tried merit in delightful tones of pink, varying from palest shades

to deep watermelon pink. There are whites, lavenders, old rose, brilliant glowing reds, and deep dark mahogany.

The different varieties vary in height from about twelve inches to four feet. The shorter ones are especially nice for rock garden planting, while the taller varieties make beautiful accents of color in a perennial border. They commence blooming about June tenth to fifteenth, depending on the season. They have two series of flowers, the larger ones opening first with the smaller ones coming on in about ten days. There are a few varieties that are later flowering, thus giving a blooming season of a month or more.

There are a few late flowering bearded iris in blue or white that bloom at the same time as the earlier pink Oriental poppies, and make a pleasing combination, but I like best to use these pink poppies with blue spuria iris, and some of the Louisiana species, for they are all tall in growth of flowering stalk, and their blooming time is the same. However, I like poppies best in a perennial border where their solid colors will stand out. The reds are delightful planted back of flesh and cream peonies, but care should be taken not to have them too near bright pink peonies. Those of lavender, mauve, old rose, and mahogany are best planted in half shade away from the hot noonday sun, and most of us have such a place in the garden.

Any variety of Oriental poppy will be very effective planted behind hostas for while they do not bloom at the same time, the thick green leaves of the hostas will hide the base of the poppy plant. Not only are they lovely in the garden, but as cut flowers they have great charm and lasting qualities.

In August the Oriental poppies die back and take their rest, and it is advisable to plant some perennial with feathery leaves in front of the poppies, so the flowers and graceful foliage will conceal the vacant space but will not smother the new poppy growth that will soon appear.

There are a few "don't's" about Oriental poppies: Do not plant a poppy in the place where another of different color has previously been grown, for it is almost impossible to dig out all of the old roots, and the result will be that in a year or so you will have a mixture of color. Do not let poppy seeds ripen; cut them off immediately after flowering, for they scatter seeds early and if they germinate almost all will be brick red. Do not plant poppies in a low



spot in the garden, they need good drainage, so see in the fall that there is no hollow in the soil surrounding the crown of the plant, and during the winter see that there is a light covering over the green leaves.

While the poppies are not as valuable in giving continuous bloom as the *hemerocallis*, yet they play an important part in the pagantry of the garden.

EDITOR'S NOTE—In case there should be even *one* eyebrow lifted at our publicizing something other than irises, it might be well to mention that most of our members have a general interest in gardens and grow a variety of flowers. We do not regard other plant societies as rivals but rather as friendly associates in promoting good gardening.

As a postscript to Mrs. Nesmith's mention of the Midwest Hemerocallis Society, we'll add that that thriving organization has now dropped its sectional title and is known as The Hemerocallis Society. This is fitting, since from the beginning its rolls have included members all over this country and in foreign countries as well. It publishes annually a splendid Yearbook which, along with occasional newsletters, is available upon payment of \$3.00 yearly dues to the Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Pearl Sherwood, Atlantic, Iowa.

We do not know of an Oriental poppy society, but are proud that one of our own members, Mr. A. E. Curtis, of Cincinnati, is probably the country's best known fancier and breeder of these showy perennials.

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#### PRAISE FOR PORTLAND

The Oregon trip was worth our time and I enjoyed the hospitality of the committee in charge of the meeting. Have never before seen such good handling of crowds as was done in Portland. The busses I was fated to ride broke down continually, and the good fellowship of the members and cooperation of the guide and bus driver made these handicaps seem trifling. We all had fun.

The greatest display to me was the DeForest plantings. We went back there Tuesday and saw many things that were not in flower the Sunday we were all there. Stayed there two days and re-visited Schreiner's at Salem.

Thank the Portland members for all the nice things they did for us. All future Annual Meetings will have to go some to equal this last one.

—Walter D. Button, Midlothian, Ill.

## **Reticulata and Juno Sections**

GEORGE L. MACALEVY

*(Mr. MacAlevy's notes are based on his experiences at Snyder—near Buffalo—, N. Y. He is now located at Sandy, Oregon, with the Oregon Bulb Farms.—Ed.)*

In the reticulata group of bulbous irises are a few species and varieties that should be better known and should merit attention for further development. The ones commented on are those that I have grown. *Iris bakeriana* is a stemless iris having cylindrical leaves with eight ribs running lengthwise the full length of the one-foot leaves. This ribbing makes a good point for distinguishing *bakeriana*. The bulb has fine reticulations and is of a long oval shape. In the flower, the falls are dark violet with a white spotted throat. The standards are a deep shade of lilac. The fragrant flower stands on a six-inch tube and is quite large for the size of the bulb.

*Iris danfordiae* is another of the reticulata section having the typical four-angled foliage of the section. The flower is very distinctive with its large falls of orange dotted and laced with olive green. The standards are reduced to mere rudiments. Many yellow variations occur in this species. If one should wish to do breeding work in the reticulata section, this species would be a good one with which to start.

*Iris histrioides* is a species very close to *reticulata*, with blue falls, creamy blotched, and blue standards. This is one of the easiest of the bulbous irises to grow and it can be naturalized quite readily.

It is in *iris reticulata* proper that we find most of the horticultural varieties in this section. It is evident that this variation has been induced through long cultivation and it is believed no hybrids are involved. In the type the leaves are four-angled and short during the bloom season, later elongating to as much as two feet before ripening. The falls are small in a deep violet color, veined, spotted, and ridged where they join the haft with orange. The standards are long and as richly colored. The following varieties are all superior.



Cantab carries larger flowers of a pale blue color marked with orange. J. S. Dijt is the best known variety. It is similar to the type in the matter of size but the purple coloring is much enhanced by deep red overtones and the fragrance is pronounced. Hercules has distinctive overtones of bronze and the orange markings are of a more fiery nature. The orange crest can be seen from quite a distance. The varieties Royal Blue and Wentworth are more recent introductions and are particularly recommended. Wentworth is a more substantial and richly colored version of the type. Royal Blue is colored as its name indicates, but the markings and crest are bright yellow, making an outstanding flower. Were I to choose but one of the *reticulatas*, it would be the variety Royal Blue.

The juno section of the genus *Iris* comprises my favorite section. These irises are little known and are not grown nearly as much as their beauty would warrant. They are a little difficult but far from impossible as so many writers imply. They like heavy clay soils and often take an extra year to establish themselves, but if left undisturbed they soon become happy occupants of the garden. They are best grown in an elevated portion of the garden so that their stiff clay soil will have adequate drainage. These bulbs like deep planting and are quite hardy. One of the peculiarities of this section is the thick fleshy roots attached to the base of the bulbs. Although not fatal, loss of these fleshy roots is a severe setback to the bulb. Most importers are very careful to keep these roots intact with the bulb. There is one species newly discovered, *I. graeberiana*, which does not mind the loss of its roots, but all the others do resent it.

Another notable species of this section, *I. persica*, has been in and out of cultivation for several centuries and some hybrids between *persica* and other junos are known. Junos are sometimes called "cornstalk iris" because of their unique habits of growth. The plants themselves are like miniature cornstalks, one to two feet in height, depending on the species. This likeness is further enhanced by the flower buds which grow from the leaf axils much in the same manner as the ears on a stalk of corn. However the foliage is exceptionally glossy and refined in appearance, and the jewel-like flowers of all the junos glisten with a sheen or inner gleam not possessed to such an extent by other sections of the genus.



Caldwell photo

Yellow-and-white *Iris bucharica* is one of the "cornstalk" species, as a glance at its foliage reveals. Note that even the buds resemble miniature ears of corn.

To date, I have had success in growing four species and one of the hybrids. *I. bucharica* is one of the first to bloom in the spring. The usual number of flowers to a stalk is five to seven. The yellow falls flare outward; the crest is golden yellow and the haft white, and the small standards are white.

While *bucharica* is still in bloom, *I. orchioides* begins to flower — a smaller plant usually carrying but three blooms of a deep yellow all over. This species has a variety, *sulphurea*, which is of a lighter



sulfur-yellow color. It is a more robust grower than the type. *I. orchioides* has bloomed in New York for seven years successively and the single plant originally planted is still doing well.

*Iris graeberiana* blooms at the same time. Its stature and form are much like *I. orchioides*, but the color is a good medium blue with rosy overtones.

*Iris vicaria* is the latest of the four species to bloom, following soon after *orchioides*. It has frosted white flowers with a prominent brilliant blue crest on each fall. As with other *junos* the standards are rudimentary but necessary to complete the artistic composition of the flower.

The hybrid *Sindpers* (*sindjarensis* X *persica*) originated by the van Tubergen nurseries of Holland, is a delft blue with orange crest and green haft. These *junos* are all quite hardy and are as early to bloom as the *reticulatas*. Very careful hand pollination will result in securing a few seeds. None form if nature is left to her own course as the *junos* flower before any insects are about in the spring and self fertilization is impossible in a normal flower. Seedlings must be grown with as little disturbance as possible.

Of this group, I would select *vicaria* as the most striking, as it is freer flowering and the most brilliant of them all. Once you have grown any of the *junos*, you too, will want to see more of them.

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#### LOUISIANA IRISES IN CANADA

Some years ago I obtained two Louisiana iris varieties—Holochee and Kraemer's Yellow—for the edge of a small pool in a conservatory. They soon outgrew their original plots and I planted a piece of each on the margin of a pool in the open. To my surprise, one of them, Holochee, not only survived the winter but has prospered and flowered. It is true that we had an unusually mild winter for Montreal, but the thermometer reached 10 below zero on more than one occasion. It proves that the Louisianas are hardier than generally sup-

posed. I gave them no covering, whatever, except what nature provided with snow.

I should add that *fulva* has come through more than one winter and *foliosa* is perfectly hardy here, as well as their hybrids, *Fulvala* and *Dorothea* K. Williamson.

—F. Cleveland Morgan, Montreal, Canada.

(Holochee, mentioned by Mr. Morgan, is one of the varieties from the late T. A. Washington, who worked with the species *foliosa* and *fulva* in producing his Louisiana hybrids—Ed.)

# Questions and Answers

**INJURY TO SEED PODS**—*I had some trouble with weevils stinging my seed pods so I made a thick paste of 50% DDT (wetable powder) and covered my pods thoroughly with this. When the ovaries were covered before the weevils punctured them they remained smooth and undamaged. From this one year's trial it looks like a good method but I may try it again next spring and check it more closely. Have you a suggestion?—J. R., Mich.*

Injury to seed pods by the weevils or larvae of the Verbena Bud Moth may be avoided simply by removing the scales enclosing the young pods about a week or ten days after the flowers are pollinated. The moths ordinarily deposit their eggs, from which the larvae later develop, at this time but will not do so on the exposed surface of the young pods, or if they do the larvae rarely invade the seed. (Answer by Dr. L. F. Randolph.)

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**RHIZOME SOURCES**—*What about the plump rhizomes from the Pacific Northwest as compared with smaller ones sometimes received from eastern growers? Which are best?—R. J. C., Okla.*

Observant, energetic W. F. Scott, Jr., RVP in Region 18, was puzzled by this same problem. Here is his first-hand account of an experiment in his Missouri garden that supplied the answer:

With considerable regularity we hear comment pro and con regarding

quality of iris rhizomes. Some contend that small, dense ones are to be preferred to those of jumbo size which may contain much water. Then, again, others contend that they get tremendous increase from the jumbo rhizomes, and beat the drum for growers who supply such.

Three years ago I decided to find out for myself. I made up a list of fifteen varieties and sent duplicate orders for them to a source which I knew habitually supplied rather small rhizomes and to one of the West Coast growers whose rhizomes usually are just smaller than a well grown

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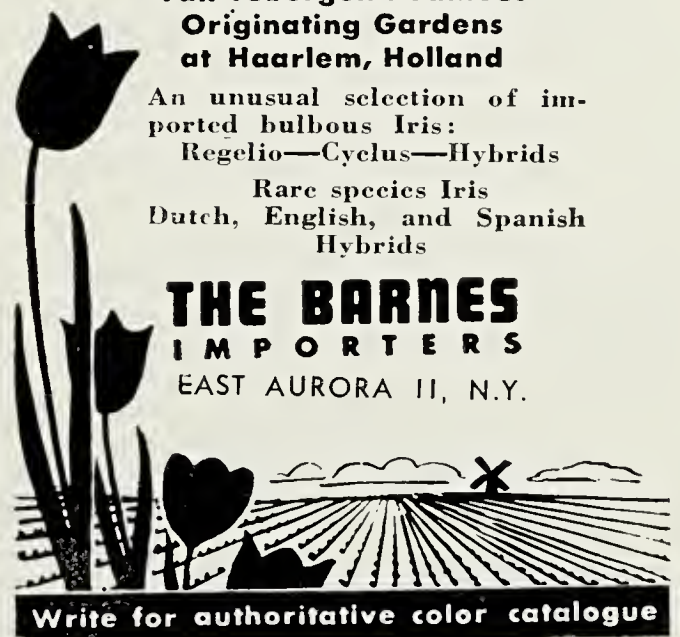
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cucumber. Now, after observing them for three full years, I feel free to comment on the results.

The rhizomes arrived within two weeks of each other, the big fat ones first. Each pair was planted side-by-side under identical conditions of sun, water, drainage and food. No attention was given to one which both did not receive. In all respects they were allowed to reveal a true comparison.

The first season favored the shriveled up little devils. They grew like something possessed. The fat ones prospered, but they seemed content to sit there and be healthy. They showed no outstanding increase, nor more than a normal amount of winter difficulties. There was as much winter rot in the little ones as in the big ones.

The first blooming season favored the little ones. There were more bloom stalks than on the fat ones. That, however, seemed to set them back a little, and the second season the fat ones won out by a fair margin. At about that point, however, they seemed to draw up alongside each other and move forward together.

Having just completed a third-season check, I find the current condition of the two lots is nearly identical—so nearly identical that there is nothing you can put your finger on and say, "See, these are better!"

In short, all this talk about fat and lean rhizomes seems to be mostly talk.

The truth seems to be that any sound, healthy rhizome of a given variety, will, over a period of years, give approximately the same results as any other sound healthy rhizome of the same variety when grown under identical conditions, regardless of the size of the initial rhizome; providing, of course, that all are mature rhizomes.

My observation seems to indicate more bloom the first season for the small rhizomes, but that may have been coincidental, and I would not stick my neck out on such an assumption based upon so small a test. Neither would I climb out on a limb favoring more bloom the second year from the jumbos. I can, however, definitely say that at the end of three years of observation they seem exactly equal in all respects, and that I can neither agree with the exponents of the jumbo school nor with those of the small rhizome school.

I think it to be human nature to want the "most for your money" so undoubtedly most buyers will continue to lean toward the jumbo rhizomes, while the midwestern growers will continue to claim that their smaller, more compact rhizomes are the most healthy. But I have reached the personal conclusion that they are both good, and equally so, as long as they are both mature and sound to begin with.

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If anyone else has conducted similar experiments, it would be interesting to read of them.

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**BORER CONTROL**—*Have you received any reports on the much publicized Gray's Borer Eradicator?*—Mrs. J. H., Ind.

Several members have expressed satisfaction at the results obtained from this material. Mr. Frank J. Gilliam, Lexington, Virginia, who is Dean of Students at Washington and Lee University and in his off time an ardent and experienced iris fancier, wrote:

"I felt that it might be pertinent to report that I had almost phenomenal success this year with Gray's Iris Borer Eradicator. Last year I had a great deal of borer in my iris, despite the fact that I used thoroughly a well-advertised all-purpose control spray. This year I used Gray's preparation alone, and after going over every iris in my garden by hand, not a single borer was found.

"I believe that a good many members of the AIS could happily improve their borer situation by the use of this material."

The BULLETIN would appreciate additional reports, particularly from growers who may have run untreated check plots alongside the plantings protected by Gray's.

Regardless of the efficacy of the protective material used, the best opinion indicates that a "one-shot"—single spray—treatment is not likely to give complete protection. As Dr. Randolph wrote in his comprehensive treatment of the subject in our last issue (April), "Intermittent hatching of the (borer) eggs during the spring and early summer makes repeated treatments necessary to keep the new growth covered as a protective measure."

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**DYKES MEDAL**—*Just what is the Dykes Medal? How is it given?*—J. A. S., Calif.

More than 2,000 new members of our Society, enrolled within the past two years, probably share your curiosity about our highest iris award.

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is presented annually in this country by The Iris Society (England) to the originator of the "best iris of the year" as voted by our accredited judges.

Regulations governing the awarding of the medal are left up to the American Iris Society by the English donors. Over the years our Directors and Awards Committee have worked out rules under which not only the Dykes Medal but other AIS honors as well are given to meritorious irises. These are published in the "Policy of Awards" leaflet distributed each spring, along with appropriate ballots, to some 400 accredited AIS judges located in all parts of the country.

Briefly, the judges are requested to vote after the flowering season on all of the Society's official awards. There are two local awards for named or numbered but unintroducted seedlings: Certificate of Commendation for cut stalks seen at shows and High Commendation for irises observed in gardens and recommended by five or more judges as worthy of the honor.

Honorable Mention is the first of the important awards for an iris that has been duly registered and introduced on the commercial market. Favorable votes from ten judges (or five for other than tall bearded varieties) are required for this award.

Two years after a variety has won Honorable Mention—giving time for

wider distribution—it becomes eligible for the Award of Merit and remains eligible through a five-year period. Judges vote their choices for the Award of Merit each year and the top ranking eight tall bearded and two other than tall bearded varieties receive the honor.

The abbreviations H.M., for Honorable Mention, and A.M., for Award of Merit, are much used in dealers' catalogues to distinguish varieties which have won these awards.

After an iris has won the Award of Merit it becomes eligible as a candidate for the highest honor, the Dykes Medal, and remains eligible for three years. This medal is awarded each year to the eligible variety polling the highest popular vote of the accredited judges.

It is thus evident that to win the top award an iris must come up "through the ranks," taking the lower honors first and then achieving wider distribution and recognition as an outstanding variety.

The regulations detailed above are currently in effect for award of the Dykes Medal in America. It should be borne in mind that Dykes Medals have also been awarded to iris varieties in England and France, under regulations differing from ours. In every case, however, the medal signifies a top honor.

## IRIS BREEDERS' GOAL!



Besides representing the ultimate honor for an iris, the Dykes Medal is in itself a handsome trophy. The name of the winning iris and its breeder, together with the year of award are engraved around the edge of the silver disc. The design on the reverse side is changed from time to time. The medal shown in the photographs (in full size) is the one received by Jesse Wills for his 1947 winner, Chivalry.





THE DYKES MEMORIAL MEDAL



DYKES MEDAL WINNERS—*Please list all irises that have won the Dykes Medal. I want to plant a complete collection.*—Mrs. L. B., Kans.

American Dykes Medal Winners are as follows:

San Francisco	1927
Dauntless	1929
Rameses	1932
Coralie	1933
Sierra Blue	1935
Mary Geddes	1936
Missouri	1937
Copper Lustre	1938
Rosy Wings	1939
Wabash	1940
The Red Douglas	1941
Great Lakes	1942
Prairie Sunset	1943
Spun Gold	1944
Elmohr	1945
Chivalry	1947
Ola Kala	1948

You will find a list which also includes Dykes medalists in England and France in *THE IRIS—AN IDEAL HARDY PERENNIAL*.

\* \* \*

NEW CHECK LIST—*When will a new, up-to-date Check List be available?*—F. H., Calif.

The AIS Board of Directors has had the matter of a new Check List under consideration for some time. The current volume was published in 1939 and with its supplement lists

registrations to 1942. Since that date annual registration lists have appeared in the *BULLETINS*, but most of these are now out of print. Admittedly, an up-to-date edition is needed badly.

Unfortunately, a book of this type is expensive to publish and never has a very wide sale, since it is useful primarily to a relatively small circle of breeders and serious students of the iris.

A 1949 supplement to the '39 Check List was considered and Vice-President Robert E. Allen corresponded extensively with breeders and regional officers in an effort to learn what type of book would be most acceptable. The project has been delayed because there is some feeling that a reference handbook, including the essential Check List data in somewhat simplified form and perhaps presenting brief biographical notes on our iris breeders, would have a wider popular appeal than a straight supplementary volume to the Check List.

Undoubtedly this matter will be acted on by our Directors at their winter meeting. The new book—whatever its form—will be publicized in the *BULLETIN* whenever it is available.

\* \* \*

GOOD BLOOM EVERY YEAR—*Whenever I dig, thin and reset my irises, the bloom is a little scant the following year. How can I avoid these occasional poor seasons?*—R. C., N. Y.

Garden plantings which are main-

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W A R N E R  
IRIS GARDENS  
Growers of Fine Irises  
BOX B,  
GRANDVIEW, WASHINGTON

---



---

SOUTH PARK  
IRIS GARDENS  
Growers of Fine Iris  
FLOYD E. BARNETT  
1445 Cloverdale St., Seattle 8, Wash.

---

tained over a number of years do require periodic renovation, and it is not unusual to have below par bloom on many perennials in addition to irises the next year after their roots have been disturbed. To keep up a good display every year at the well known Presby Garden in Montclair, N. J., a "staggered" system of replanting is employed; that is, part of the beds are renewed annually. Enough plants are always at or near enough to their peak performance stage to make up for the lighter bloom on the ones that have been recently reset.

A scheme for keeping iris plantings in good flowering condition for many years has been suggested by Dr. G. Alan Kriz, Elm Grove, Wisc. We haven't tried Dr. Kriz's method, but it appears simple and sensible—well worth a trial. Here is what the Doc-

tor says:

When I took up iris growing as a hobby in 1935 it was partly because of the flowers' appeal but largely because of easy culture. A plant that could be set and thrive, come snows or droughts, and bring forth an annual harvest of bloom was the answer to a gardener's dream. I soon learned that large flowers required somewhat more than squatters' rights. Transplanting every other year into new soil became an increasing chore as my collection grew. Transplanting had the drawback the first year after moving, bloom was sub-standard in amount and size. If one waited four or five years, crowding of rhizomes would limit perfection of bloom by exhausting the soil nutrients, steadily reducing the size of rhizome and flowers. It appeared that a major

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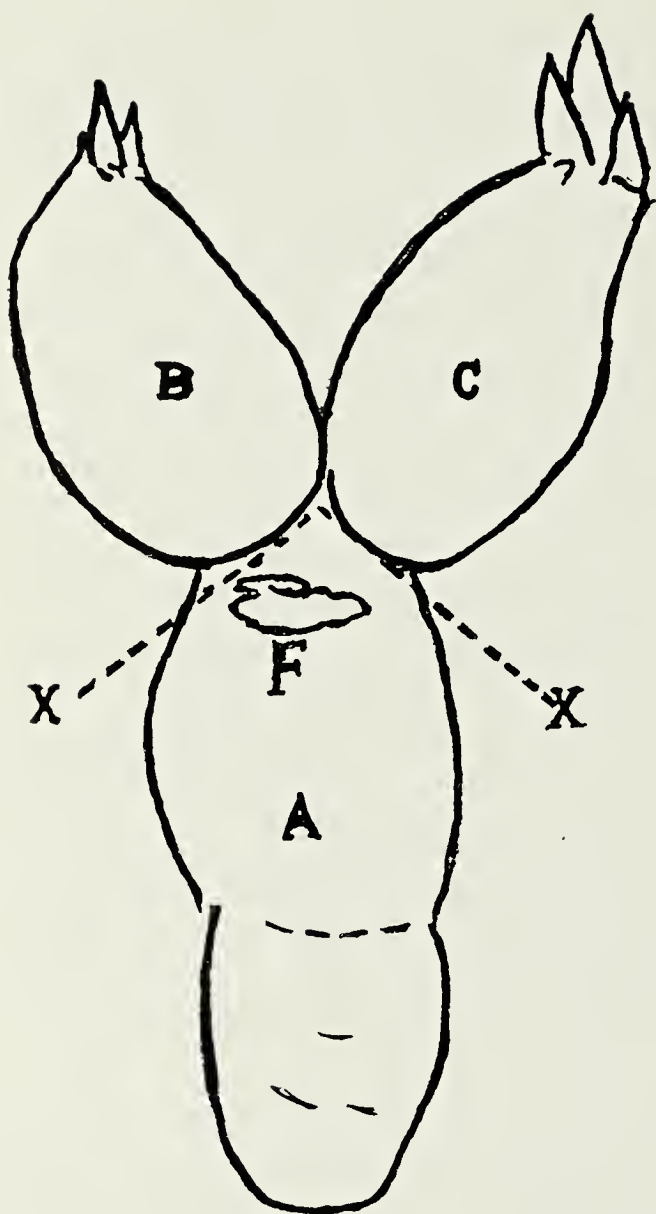
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Dr. Kriz illustrates his method of rhizome cutting.

operation was necessary every two or three years to maintain an iris garden at peak form.

In casting about for a way to maintain a large garden with minimum effort, I began rhizome cutting. Instead of lifting the whole clump at transplanting time, I would dissect the network with a sharp knife so as to remove most of the smaller rhizomes. These were lifted in a manner so as not to disturb the few large rhizomes which I chose to leave. This practice

insured annual bloom from my favorite varieties. I considered it to be a minor surgical procedure which warranted less shock to the subject. Depending on the age and size of the clump, I would remove one-fourth to three-fourths of the mass. The better rhizomes are dissected from these lifted portions for replanting as desired. Another advantage of this method is the removal of dead rhizomes which act as a focus for iris rot. We know from the anatomy of the iris that the original rhizome A (see drawing) furnishes the bloom stalk F and usually at least 2 offshoots, B and C. The rhizome A exhausts itself in the process and dies at the end of the season. The dead rhizome remains to decay. Decaying vegetation is a nidus for rot, worms and insects. A few sharp cuts through the sections marked X are a simple operation in the spring shortly after growth starts. At this time the living and dead portions can readily be distinguished. The stems of the Y's (Section A on diagram) and all parts showing poor growth or crowding may be cut away with a sharp knife. Old matted clumps with grandpappies, uncles, aunts and little sissies all huddled together and sitting on each others' laps would certainly need radical surgery but preferably should be lifted and divided.

Gaps and depressions left by removal of exhausted and unwanted rhizomes will leave room for a top dressing. This can be in the form of gravelly soil, sandy loam or compost. I prefer the latter mixed with one-third coarse sand. A sprinkle of bone meal may be added at this time if desired. The soil is replenished and the rhizomes given room to develop, all without disturbing roots or checking growth.

## Our Members Write . . .



### FEED 'EM AND REAP!

Just a few kind words for the Gentle Cow . . . might help someone enjoy growing iris more.

Are you one of those frustrated iris lovers — as we were — who grow iris but are afraid to transplant, because it takes forever to get enough new growth for bloom? If so, I believe our experience will interest you.

We have grown iris for over fifteen years, with little increase and just enough bloom to egg us on. We have clay soil, lightened with sand, ashes and disposal plant dirt. We followed directions of commercial growers who said absolutely, "No manure—manure will make rot." Obedient to their advice, we used bone meal — lots of it — but we still had rot and very little increase.

Having sung the blues for ten years,

we decided that other plants in our garden responded to manure, so why wouldn't iris? There wasn't much to lose. We raised our beds, used the same amount of bone meal and added something new — guess what. COW MANURE — lots of it! With fear and trembling we awaited the next season. Behold — the next spring nearly everything had prolific increase and plenty of lovely luscious bloom stalks. Oh joy! It was fun.

Then we thought, maybe it just happened, so we tried the same procedure for three or four years — even on our high priced ones. Now even Fair Elaine has lots of increase and we look forward to seeing it bloom in our garden, together with many older iris which have been here for years without bloom. Most of these we'll discard, but we're just stubborn enough to

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want to have them bloom in our garden at least once.

We want to forget our years of using only bone meal. We still think it is good for our ground, but now having added the cow manure and raised the beds, we feel we can say goodbye to wholesale rot and the blues, and revel in the beauty of hundreds of iris — still keeping in mind that, “Paul may plant and Apollos water, but the blessing comes from God.”

—Mrs. John R. Harrell, *Aurora, Ill.*

Speaking to a group of Dallas, Texas, gardeners in 1947, Judge Guy Rogers, our new president, who is an ardent advocate of the use of manure in fertilizing irises, gave his famous formula for making an iris bed (see “Fertilizing Irises,” BULLETIN 106). One of the ladies in attendance was so shocked by this heresy that she arose and challenged his veracity or good sense or both! So steeped was this good lady in the old-time dogmatic brew that she couldn’t believe her ears, let alone keep quiet about it.

I have often wondered about the origin of the “no manure” fetish. Like Mrs. Harrell I followed advice gleaned from old BULLETINS and carried out to the letter instructions which came with my iris purchases. The inevitable, inescapable result was delayed somewhat by the natural richness of my soil, but when the iris finally used up all the plant food in my beds, rot ran rampant. I couldn’t seem to stop it. Sulfur, Semesan, potassium permanganate, Cupro-jabonite and every nostrum short of a mustard plaster were tried.

Then one morning while I was wandering about the garden in a sort of dazed condition I happened to notice a long row of irises blooming beautifully. There was no rot in any of them, while not fifty feet away my

show beds contained nothing but the smelly cadavers of my twenty-five-dollar beauties. I looked closer and slowly the light began to dawn on me. The row of irises containing no rot were planted between a path to the barn and a long asparagus bed. I had personally prepared my show beds according to the best practices to be found in the literature. My man of all work, who had not read the latest in cultural directions, had covered the asparagus bed with about four inches of manure. In doing the job he had also covered the iris. Since they were “just iris” and not my prize winners, I hadn’t bothered to uncover them. Both the iris and the asparagus were obviously prospering. Later a little soft rot did appear in a clump of Dominion Rex, but it cured itself.

Any idea as strong in the minds of so many people as the “no manure” idea has been in the minds of most irisarians must have had some basis of fact. We should not ignore it but rather, I think, interpret it in the light of variable conditions. Most of our iris knowledge had its beginning in England. Early iris growers in this country were for the most part located in New England or along the Atlantic seaboard. All three of these areas are regions of heavy rainfall. *Bacillus carotivorus*, an organism present in all barnyard manure, naturally spreads under conditions of excess moisture. Someone used manure around iris and rot appeared, and *ergo* all manure causes soft rot. The word spread and became more dogmatic with each telling. The result was that a lot of Harrells and Douglasses systematically starved their irises to death — by rot.

Only in the last few years has anyone had the temerity to question the “no manure” principle. But in all seriousness, why should not manure

be used with irises when it is the standard fertilizer for practically all root crops — onions, beets, potatoes to a limited extent, turnips, and of all things, carrots!

In the considered opinion of many iris growers, diseases of iris are more likely to be the result of weaknesses due to undernourishment than the use of any one fertilizer. Anyone can see that soft, lush growth stimulated by fall applications of a fertilizer with a high nitrogen content will be especially susceptible to injury from sudden winter freezes. But this is a far cry from well rotted manure worked and re-worked into the soil months ahead of planting time. Those who are having trouble with sick plants and sparse bloom might well study the cultural notes on pages 84 and 85 of *THE IRIS—AN IDEAL HARDY PERENNIAL*. The opinions of some eighty-five experts summarized there cannot be taken lightly.

Analyze your own conditions and fit your program to them. Good drainage? Certainly! Sunshine? But definitely. And lastly: "Feed your iris plants well but intelligently for good bloom and good growth."—*Geddes Douglas*

\* \* \*

**CUTTING FOLIAGE AFTER EXCESSIVE RAIN**—*We have had much more rain than is usual in this dry country. A local radio garden commentator advised us to cut all iris back near the ground, or the roots would rot. Is that right? Drainage is good in my garden. I have some expensive irises and don't want to lose them.*—*Mrs. H. L. S., Texas.*

Look over your irises carefully. If there is any indication of rotting of foliage or roots, the foliage may be cut back to advantage. If the clumps are thick, pull out any trash and decaying leaves.

If there is evidence of soft rot or mustard seed fungus about the rhizomes, clean away the dead and infected material back to clean flesh; cut other foliage back to about 6 inches high to facilitate full exposure to sunlight and air and spray with a solution made as follows:

Mix 1 tablespoon flour, 1 tablespoon Dreft, 2 tablespoons Fermate and 1 tablespoon powdered copper carbonate together into a paste with a small amount of water and then dilute to one gallon.

This is a strong solution for use when rot is prevalent. It may be diluted to a weaker strength if used as a preventive.

However, if your irises show no signs of rot, simply clean up the patch by removing dead leaves and accumulated debris, and let it go at that.

**HILL—SON**

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ing, Tall Bearded, Spuria and  
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*Hemerocallis—Peonies*



## DIRECTORS MEET AT PORTLAND

The Directors' Meeting of the American Iris Society, held in connection with the Annual Meeting at Portland, convened Sunday evening, May 15, at 8:00 o'clock, at the Hotel Multnomah, after the Directors had dined together. Present were President Guy Rogers, Dr. Matthew C. Riddle and Messrs. Harold W. Knowlton, E. G. Lapham, Carl O. Schirmer, David Hall and Jesse Wills.

President Rogers brought up the fact that St. Louis had been set tentatively as the place for the Annual Meeting to follow the 1951 one in Shreveport. In view of the fact that the St. Louis people are making definite plans for the event, it was moved and passed that the 1952 Annual Meeting be officially set for St. Louis.

It was brought out that the Registrar had raised the question as to whether an additional fee of \$1.00 would be due when a breeder asked that a name be switched from one variety to another. It was moved and passed that this should not be considered a new introduction and that the \$1.00 need not be collected in such a case.

Mr. Knowlton stated that New England was inviting the Society for the meeting in 1953. The idea was received with interest and approval, but it was decided that this had best be kept in an informal state for the time being as we should not attempt to set dates officially so far ahead of time. New England will still have the priority right to this meeting, however, if it chooses to exercise it when the time comes for official action.

A letter from Secretary Douglas to the Directors was read by the Acting Secretary, Mr. Wills. In accordance with his suggestion it was moved and passed that the dues be set at \$3.50 for the year 1950.

There was considerable discussion of the suggestion that husband and wife both be included in the Sustaining Membership. A good many questions were asked about this: for instance, as to whether the husband or wife would be listed as the actual member, whether or not it would lead to requests for two BULLETINS, and whether this could be done without another change in the By-Laws. It was moved and passed that we approve in principle the idea of the husband and wife being included in the Sustaining Member-

ship, but with only one BULLETIN to go to the couple, and that the details of how this might be done should be worked out by the President and Secretary.

The Directors approved the suggestion that the winter meeting be held in October or November instead of January, in Chicago or some other midwestern city. It was left to the President to say the exact date and place.

It was moved and passed that effective July 1 Western Connecticut should be restored to Region I and that Region 19 comprise Southern New York and all of New Jersey. It was understood that it would be agreeable to Mr. John Dolman, Jr., R. V. P. for Region 3, for Southern New Jersey to be taken out of his region. Mr. C. H. Caldwell, Montclair, N. J., was appointed the new Regional Vice-President for Region 19. Mrs. P. E. Corey of Reading, Mass., was approved as Regional Vice-President of Region 1.

The suggestion was brought up that no registrations from Australia be approved unless they had been first cleared with the Australian and New Zealand Iris Society. No final action was taken on this matter.

—Jesse Wills, *Acting Secretary.*

## INVITATION

The AIS Annual Meeting in 1952 will be held in St. Louis. This central location will insure heavy attendance by the general membership and also a heavy attendance of judges.

Hybridizers desiring to bring certain of their irises to the attention of a large number of judges in 1952 are invited to send Guest Irises to St. Louis, to be grown in gardens which will be included on the regular program.

For full details, please write as quickly as possible to:

Clifford W. Benson (Chairman, Committee on Guest Irises)  
1201 Verl Place  
St. Louis, Missouri



## *Coast-to-Coast Comments*

"The customers always write" to a magazine like the BULLETIN, and the editors receive many good letters with notes and observations on iris varieties. Here is a cross-country sampling of opinions, mostly from AIS accredited judges.

### NEW YORK (Peter J. Fass, Jericho, Long Island) :

AMIGO (Williamson) —Not new but should be in every garden.

BLUE VALLEY (Smith)—One of the finest medium blues, a large flower on a hardy plant.

BRYCE CANYON (Kleinsorge) —Form fair, color brilliant rich copper.

CASCADE SPLENDOR (Kleinsorge) —Most beautiful of all apricot-pink blends, with flowers of excellent form.

CHIVALRY (Wills)—Another beautiful blue in the medium blue class; wonderfully formed flowers; not as blue as Blue Valley.

DESERT SONG (Fay) —The finest cream iris; a large flower of beautiful form.

FALL DAYS (Smith) —A copper red bicolor with rosy gold standards; an eye catcher in a clump.

JULIET (Kleinsorge)—Best form in the copper class.

MASTER CHARLES (Williamson)—A dark brown-purple of fine form and texture.

MULBERRY ROSE (Schreiner) —A large clump is a breather.

OLA KALA (J. Sass)—Best deep yellow, makes a beautiful clump.

SPANISH PEAKS (Loomis) —One of the finest whites, beautiful rounded dome standards and broad rounded falls with white beard.

STATEN ISLAND (Smith)—A fine large variegata of gold standards with red falls, with broad edge same color as standards.

\* \* \*

### NEW JERSEY (C. H. Caldwell, Montclair) :

JASPER AGATE (Mrs. T. Williams) —A very rich glowing red in two shades that occasioned much comment by visitors to my garden. One-year plant shows strong growth and fair increase.

STATEN ISLAND (Smith)—This new variegata should become very popular; it is a fine color in the garden.

VIRGINIA (Mrs. Charles F. Roberts, Norfolk) :

BLACK BANNER (Nicholls) —Many flower stalks to the clump and a bloom distinguished for its intensity of color. Reddish purple underneath, covered with a heavy coating of black velvet.

BLUE RHYTHM (Whiting)—A satisfactory plant throughout, with many stalks to the clump. Whenever I reach this variety in my notes, it always has a big star by it.

LAKE SHANNON (DeForest)—A bloom of fine form and finish that looks blue even in the sun.

PIERRE MENARD (Faught) —On what appeared to be a one-year clump the bloom was very large, with horizontal falls, fine form and substance, an enamel finish and a lot of blue in the coloring.

SPUN GOLD (Glutzbeck)—One more song of praise for this variety. A two-year clump produced seven medium sized, well balanced stalks with many blooms—also of medium size—properly placed for good clump effect. A three-year plant sent up three 40-inch exhibition stalks with large blooms, well balanced. The bloom is flawless and velvety with a depth of soft yellow color and the “feel” of suede cloth. There was never a lovelier sight in the whole flower kingdom. All this, and it has pollen and sets seed readily, too.

\* \* \*

INDIANA (Miss Marguerite Reath, Bedford) :

Some older, but very, very good varieties:

ANDALUSIAN BLUE (Schreiner) —Intermediate as to season and height. Good increaser. It does sunburn but I love it, and never hear of it in the catalogs (It's in Schreiner's—Ed.). Large flowers—as big as Great Lakes, I'd say. I can't get it to set seed, though.

CHRISTABEL (Lapham) —A personal favorite. As good an all-round red as I have ever had. Good increaser; tall enough for a red, with a long blooming period. It does rain-splotch some on the velvety falls, but show me any “velvet” that doesn't.

GOLDEN EAGLE (Hall) —Large flowers, tall stalks. An excellent breeder as to seed pods and pollen—very prolific. Flower may be a bit fragile but it is much admired in my garden for the size.

SNOW FLURRY (Rees)—Trim and ruffled blue-white. Long season of bloom; very good pod parent. Much admired for its ruffling. Not much increase.



## ILLINOIS (John A. Buneaux, Chicago):

Noted on the Portland trip—

At Cooley's: **SUNSET BLAZE** (Kleinsorge) —A very bright blend on tall, well branched stalks. Large flowers with closed standards and flaring falls . . . **LAKE SHANNON** (DeForest)—Well branched medium blue. A clean color . . . **GOLDBEATER** (Kleinsorge) —A large bright yellow with fine branching and a good plant.

At DeForest's: **COLOR CARNIVAL** (DeForest) —A pink with tangerine beard and purple veining on the falls . . . **CLEAR SAILING** (DeForest) —A fine flaring yellow with deep yellow epaulets at the haft. Tall with four-way branching . . . **GAY BORDER** (DeForest) —A 36-inch white iris with flushes and dotting of lilac and maroon, and some gold at the haft. Large flowers on a well branched stalk . . . **Dr. Graves' CORPORAL MARY, LADY BOSCAWEN and HELEN MCGREGOR** were giving a fine account of themselves, and these fair ladies must have missed the Doctor as we all did.

At Dr. Kleinsorge's: **BALLET DANCER** (Kleinsorge)—A broad-petaled flower with domed standards and flaring falls; 40-inch stem with good branching. A very fine apricot-colored iris . . . **EL PASO** (Kleinsorge) —More yellow than Bryce Canyon, making a brighter flower. Good sized flowers on stalks of medium height.

At Walter Marx's: **SNOW BANK**—A tall, large white with domed standards and semi-drooping falls, which with its many blooms made a fine garden subect.

At Schreiner's: **CONFETTI** (Schreiner) —Here is a plicata with size and color and a tall stalk, unusually well branched . . . **MISTY GOLD** and **MULBERRY ROSE** (both Schreiner) were putting on a grand show in their home garden . . . **PINNACLE** (Stevens)—An iris that attracted the attention of everyone with its pure white standards and clean yellow falls. Besides, it has size, height, branching and a good plant . . . **SPANISH PEAKS** (Loomis) —A tall, large white with domed standards and drooping falls; the plant is good.

\* \* \*

## ILLINOIS (Walter D. Button, Midlothian):

**ARGUS PHEASANT** (DeForest) —One of the loveliest in the golden brown class.

**BLUE FRILLS** (Stephenson)—Good, as seen in Oregon.

COLOR CARNIVAL (DeForest) —Some of the DeForest guests liked this multicolored iris. It is different—too gay for a quiet corner.

EDWARD OF WINDSOR (Morris) —If it's pink I failed to observe it. I saw two good plants in flower at Alpine, Oregon, and I wouldn't give it room in my garden.

NEW SNOW (Fay) —The best white I have seen.

PLUM PRETTY (DeForest) —A real plum-colored medium-sized iris. Different.

TRULY YOURS (Fay) —A truly beautiful yellow and white.

\* \* \*

#### WISCONSIN (A. G. Blodgett, Waukesha):

AMANDINE (Douglas) —Heavy substance on a fine plant; clear cream.

BLUE VALLEY (Smith) —Large, broad ruffled flower. Makes other blues look lavender by comparison.

CHERIE (Hall) —Fine flamingo pink with substance, form and good branching. Compares favorably with the best in other color classes.

CHIVALRY (Wills) —Best of the medium blues; all good points.

DREAMCASTLE (Cook) —Distinctive lavender-pink. Round falls, broad at the haft. Top-branched, but should rate much higher.

GENERAL PATTON (Kleinsorge) —Closest to brown yet produced, with the heaviest and stiffest substance I've seen.

NEW SNOW (Fay) —The finest individual flower of all the whites. High branched, large and ruffled.

RANGER (Kleinsorge) —Still one of the best all-round reds.

THREE OAKS (Whiting) —Underrated pink blend with blue flush on falls. Must be seen in an established clump to be fully appreciated.

\* \* \*

#### MISSOURI (Dr. Lewis Clevenger, Kirksville):

BLUE ENSIGN (Meyer) —An English iris that is making a name for itself. An excellent dark blue—splendid shape and color.

BLUE SHIMMER (J. Sass) —To my mind the best of the blue-white plicatas. Colors are attractive together. Outstanding performer here.



CLOTH OF GOLD (Whiting)—One of the most attractive of the newer yellows. Splendid color, form, size and branching. It produced well in my garden.

GLORY (Kinish)—One of the best light creamy yellows. Large size, good form, fine performer.

LAKE BREEZE (Fay)—A fine big flower, nicely ruffled, but it bunched up badly. It is lighter at center of flower, which I do not like so well.

MASTER CHARLES (Mary Williamson)—A fine dark iris; it has lovely form and does well here.

OLA KALA (J. Sass)—Again the best yellow in the field. Color supreme, shape good.

PINK LACE (Sass Bros.)—Disappointed in this one—too many reticulations at haft.

RAINBOW ROOM (J. Sass)—Showed up well both at the Sass garden and at Whiting's. All colors nicely blended in a medium-sized flower.

SEA LARK (Muhlestein)—A lovely blue.

SYLVIA MURRAY (Norton)—One of the best lighter blues. Its form is flaring; good even color.

TEA ROSE (Whiting)—A good copper pink that has garden value. One of our best performers.

THE CAPITOL (Maxwell-Norton)—A very large white with some yellow at shoulders; excellent performer.

\* \* \*

#### KANSAS (Mrs. Bernard E. Ulrich, Atchison):

BROWN THRASHER (Kirkland)—Looks like a piece of highly polished bronze. Gives a fine performance in my garden, where its blooms and stalks are very weather-resistant. In my opinion the best brown iris.

CLOTH OF GOLD (Whiting)—A fine deep yellow, perfectly formed, tall and stately. It is a good multiplier and produces sturdy stalks.

GRAND CANYON (Kleinsorge)—Deep colored blend of plum, copper and gold with gold beard at throat. Best when planted in part shade, where it is a fine performer.

LADY MOHR (Salbach)—An unusual iris. Standards oyster-white, huge and slightly ruffled; falls pale chartreuse. Very lovely large

flowers on well branched, sturdy stalks.

MULBERRY ROSE (Schreiner)—One of the most distinctive colorings yet achieved in irises—a self, well described by its name. Large blooms. Deserves all the attention bestowed on it.

PRAIRIE SUNSET (H. Sass)—Not new but still a really gorgeous iris with its tints of pink, rose, apricot, peach and gold. Just one bad fault—it fades in sun.

#### KANSAS (Accredited Judge, Liberal):

BELLE AMI (Ohl)—A beautiful “lemon ice”—larger than most of that color. Substance good. I was disappointed that the falls did not flare.

BLUE RHYTHM (Whiting)—Certainly an outstanding blue iris, growing well wherever I saw it. Vigorous, flower fairly ruffled; good substance, well branched stalks.

FALL DAYS (Smith)—This caught my eye as a rusty blend. It lacked for branching, but flowers were good sized and had better substance than most varieties in the color class.

PINK FORMAL (Muhlestein)—A fine pink iris; certainly the pinkest I saw. Large and of good substance; branching fair.

PINK TOWER (Muhlestein)—Not so good or pink as Pink Formal—substance not so good, either—but still very pretty and dainty.

#### KANSAS (Mrs. R. R. Spohrer, Lenora):

Out in western Kansas where we have long dry seasons at times and again very wet ones, I find some of the old time iris much better for my garden than some of the newer ones. ANGELUS (Egelberg) has been a prolific late bloomer for three years for me . . . FRANK ADAMS (Lapham) is one of the best for this section. While tall, it has strong stalks which stand up well in our wind. Has been a vigorous grower and good bloomer for me . . . GLORIOLE (Gage) is another good one—large and with a long blooming season . . . INDIAN HILLS (Grant) is large and withstands strong wind; my favorite purple . . . I would not be without dependables such as GOLDEN MAJESTY (Salbach), GUDRUN (K. Dykes), MRS. J. L. GIBSON (Gibson), NARAIN (Shuber), ROSY WINGS (Gage) and TIFFANY (H. Sass) . . . I have had trouble with the MOHR iris; they cannot be depended on to bloom here every year, especially GRACE and WILLIAM.



CALIFORNIA (Frederick Kennedy, Jr., San Dimas):

BALTIS (White) —A huge, very dark, rich flower of unusual form, quite unlike the Mohr strain of oncocyclis hybrids. If this turns out to be hardy, it will appeal to those with a taste for exotic beauty.

LOVE LACE (Mitchell) —Even if you don't like plicatas, you will like this. Good size, form and substance; and for color harmony and sheer loveliness of pattern it will be hard to beat.

VIGIL (Wills) —Tailored perfection. Form and branching even better than Chivalry. The best white, if not the best iris I have seen.

CALIFORNIA (Mrs. George Storman, St. Helena):

ACTION FRONT (Cook) —While not tall and perhaps a little too closely branched, its color and form are about perfect. It is really lovely.

BERKELEY GOLD (Salbach) —This well branched, beautifully formed bright yellow iris gives Ola Kala a bad time. The flowers are larger and there are more of them.

BLUE SHIMMER (J. Sass) —This was beautiful in my garden and then as I saw it in Mrs. L. Martinelli's garden near Sebastopol, it was perfect in every way. Such branching—starting at the ground and forming a perfect candelabra. It is a treat to know that irises do grow like that.

CALIFORNIA PEACH (Salbach) —I can't see anything worth while in this one. It flops; its stalk is weak and it fades badly.

DESERT SKIES (Salbach) —This is a fine blue on the order of Lucerne, but it has a longer blooming period and a sturdier stalk.

FRANCONIA (Graves) —As seen in my garden on a one-year plant, it was beautiful. There were three large blooms open at once—the purest white in the garden.

MULBERRY ROSE (Schreiner) —This is a lovely iris as it opens, but here, at least, it fades almost beyond recognition within a couple of hours.

PACIFIC SUNSET (Salbach) —A medley of colors hard to beat. It has most of the qualities expected in a good iris, but it does fade a bit for me. However, I liked it very much growing at Salbach's and at Mrs. L. Martinelli's; I shall try it in a little afternoon shade.

# CULTURE OF IRIS *IN VITRO*<sup>1</sup>

A. ORVILLE DAHL,<sup>2</sup> ROBERT SCHREINER,<sup>3</sup>  
AND GERTRUDE S. JOACHIM<sup>4</sup>

The following is a brief report of preliminary investigations utilizing the very effective methods devised by Randolph and Cox (6). The common impression that the culture of excised mature embryos is of recent origin is dispelled by an examination of the literature. As early as 1890, Brown and Morris (2) \* describe at length their many successful cultures of excised barley embryos. In their dissertation, citations to the earlier observations of Gris (3), van Tieghem (10), and Blociszweski (1) are included. These early papers are worthy of examination because of their suggestive observations. Since they have not been cited in the current literature on the subject, complete references are given here.

## *Material and Methods*

The basic methods have already been described (6). For mature embryo cultures, fresh (current season), 1-, 2-, 9-, and 12-year old iris seeds of both polyploid and diploid hybrids were utilized. Subsequent events indicated that all seeds included viable embryos.

The excised mature embryos developed promptly *in vitro* as Randolph (5) has described. After the plants had produced four or five leaves, they were transferred from the culture bottles to individual pots containing "Vermiculite" (granulated mica or micaceous mineral). In this medium which is relatively sterile and neutral, the plants continued development when watered with the mineral components of Randolph's solution. Excessive water-loss from the leaves was prevented by covering the plant with

---

<sup>1</sup> This study was supported by funds from the "St. Paul Dispatch Fellowship in Botany" and the Graduate School, University of Minnesota.

<sup>2</sup> Department of Botany, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis 14.

<sup>3</sup> Rt. 2, Box 327, Salem, Ore.

<sup>4</sup> Division of Agronomy and Plant Genetics, University of Minnesota, St. Paul 8.

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\*We are indebted to Dr. Ernest Ball of North Carolina State College for this reference.



an inverted culture bottle. Loss of seedlings from damping-off was negligible. The transition from culture bottle to soil is a critical one. The "Vermiculite" medium appears to satisfactorily bridge this gap. After sufficient root-growth had been made, the plants were transferred to a mixture of 2 parts garden loam and 1 part sand. Protection from excessive evaporation was continued for about 1 week longer at which time new root development was sufficient to permit vigorous growth without any further special attention.

### *Culture of excised fertilized ovules*

There appear to be no published accounts reporting success in culture *in vitro* of the excised fertilized egg. Likewise, very young embryos have rarely gone on to develop after excision. There are, of course, a number of fundamental problems in embryology and nutrition whose solution would be greatly aided by a technique providing for controlled culture of these highly immature structures. Somewhat in this direction were a number of experiments utilizing fertilized ovules of various ages. These were excised under aseptic conditions from surface-sterilized fruits. Surface sterilization was effected with 95% ethyl alcohol. Isolated micropylar portions\* of ovules as well as excised young spheroidal embryos (0.16mm. or less in diameter) failed to develop on the cultural medium. Whole intact ovules less than 0.4 cm. in length survived for a short period but did not continue development. However, ovules 0.4 cm. or greater in length continued essentially normal growth. In some instances, the final ripened ovule (seed) was somewhat larger than that developing naturally on the adult plant. Massive seed coats having the characteristic dark-brown pigmentation were developed by the cultured ovules. Embryos excised from the moist seeds grown *in vitro* proceeded to grow at once. This is in harmony with the previous observation (6) that dormancy factors are not present within the embryo of iris. Not infrequently, it was noted that the embryos of seeds grown *in vitro* were larger than those of seeds ripened on the adult plant. In such instances, it was evident that part of the endosperm had been digested away.

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\*—representing the embryo end.

It is relevant to point out that Skirm (7) was able to bring to flowering previously unobtainable hybrids of *Lilium regale* Wils. and *L. Henryi* Baker by culturing excised fertilized ovules.

The researches of van Overbeek, *et al* (8, 9) and recently of Kent and Brink (4) indicate that it is quite possible to devise a medium which will support the successful growth of very young embryos. These media include "embryo growth factors" that standard media devised for other purposes may not include.

#### "Culture" of cut inflorescences

Not infrequently, stems bearing valuable hand-pollinated flowers are accidentally broken away from plants in the field. A number of such stems were brought into the laboratory and placed in flasks containing the mineral components of Randolph's solution. Growth of microorganisms was avoided by changing the solution twice each week—at which time the stem was freshly cut. Most of the inflorescences "cultured" in this manner produced seeds from which viable embryos were excised. It is thus possible to salvage material that might otherwise be lost.

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P. I. Merry photo

"Queen" Helen

JUNE DAY IN A NEW ENGLAND GARDEN (Frontispiece) Cassebeer photo

Tall, clipped evergreens lend an air of stateliness and dignity and provide a pleasing background for clumps of light-toned irises in the Concord, Mass., garden of the Stedman Buttricks. Across the grassy path irises again are planted in separate groupings, so that the blooms stand out boldly against the foliage of daylilies, delphiniums and other perennials which in their turn will give color.

*Helen McGregor Wins Dykes,  
Cherie Leads A. M. List, as  
Awards Committee Announces - - -*

## 1949 Awards and Honors

ROBERT E. ALLEN

*Chairman, Committee on Awards*

The twenty-third annual competition for the Dykes Memorial Medal, top honor of all irisdom, resulted in the recommendation of the Committee on Awards that the American Dykes Medal for 1949 be awarded to the tall bearded variety HELEN MCGREGOR. The directors of the American Iris Society promptly approved the recommendation, so the lovely, light blue creation of Dr. Robert J. Graves of Concord, New Hampshire, becomes the eighteenth famous iris to win the coveted Dykes Medal in America.

Two hundred and forty-nine accredited judges of the American Iris Society participated in the choice of HELEN MCGREGOR for the Dykes Medal and at the same time selected eleven varieties for the Award of Merit, forty for Honorable Mention and thirty-nine unintro-duced varieties for High Commendation.

HELEN MCGREGOR, a beautiful, ruffled, light blue iris, was selected by Dr. Graves from a number of promising seedlings of PURISSIMA by CLOUD CASTLE. Registered by him in 1943 and introduced in 1946 by Fairmount Gardens (Mrs. Thomas Nesmith), Lowell, Massachusetts, HELEN MCGREGOR received a High Commendation in 1943, an Honorable Mention in 1946, an AIS rating of 91 in 1946, the Award of Merit in 1948 and now receives the Dykes Medal in 1949 during its first year of eligibility. Thus HELEN MCGREGOR won the Dykes Medal as soon after introduction as the AIS awards rules permit. This was largely due to the three-year waiting period between registration and introduction, in which time the new variety became well known to many judges and eagerly awaited by many more, so that its post-intro-duction receipt was immediately favorable. The nation-wide distri-bution of the judges voting for HELEN MCGREGOR indicates that the Dykes medalist performs well in all the iris-growing regions of the United States and Canada.

Unlike most modern irises, HELEN MCGREGOR has a short and simple family tree. This triumph of breeding and selection by Dr. Graves



and Edward Watkins is only three and four generations advanced from the three species from which it derives, namely cypriana, mesopotamica and pallida. It is not less than 5/16 mesopotamica; 5/16 pallida and 2/16 cypriana. The unknown parents of its grandparent SENSATION probably contributed more of these same strains. The female line of descent is cypriana, CATERINA, ARGENTINA and PURISSIMA, while the male line is pallida, CATERINA, QUEEN CATERINA, GLORIOLE and CLOUD CASTLE.

Like its pod parent PURISSIMA and its half-sister SNOW FLURRY, HELEN MCGREGOR is proving to be a splendid parent and some of its progeny are already well advanced along the honor road. Although customarily used as a pod parent, a few cases of the successful use of its pollen have been reported. The voting which resulted in the award of the Dykes Medal to HELEN MCGREGOR was as follows:

### DYKES MEDAL VOTING

VARIETY	ORIGINATOR	INTRODUCER	VOTES RECEIVED	
			Number	Per Cent
Helen McGregor	Graves '43	Nesmith '46	66	26.50
Blue Rhythm	Whiting '45	Whiting '45	48	19.28
Lady Mohr	Salbach '43	Salbach '44	28	11.25
Bryce Canyon	Kleinsorge '44	Cooley '44	24	9.64
Amandine	Douglas '44	Nesmith '46	12	4.82
All Others			71	28.51
			<hr/> 249	<hr/> 100.00

It is worthy of note that BRYCE CANYON, BLUE RHYTHM and LADY MOHR were also among the first five varieties in the 1948 competition in which OLA KALA won the Dykes Medal and BRYCE CANYON was runner-up.

### THE AWARD OF MERIT

Because of a tie for eighth place, nine tall bearded varieties received the Award of Merit while two other than tall bearded varieties received the same award. It is important to remember that only those varieties that had received an Honorable Mention during the five-year period, 1943-1948 inclusive, were eligible for the Award of Merit in 1949. The Award of Merit is given to the eight eligible tall bearded varieties and the two eligible other than tall bearded varieties receiving the most votes in the competition, provided that they receive more than ten and seven votes respectively. If two or more varieties are tied for eighth place the award is given to all varieties thus tied. The voting for the 1949 Awards of Merit follows on the next page.

## AWARD OF MERIT VOTING

### Tall Bearded Varieties

VARIETY	ORIGINATOR	INTRODUCER	VOTES
Cherie	D. F. Hall	D. F. Hall	119
Blue Valley	K. D. Smith	K. D. Smith	76
Distance	Cook	Williamson	61
Desert Song	Fay	Fay	60
Sylvia Murray	Norton	Maxwell-Norton	59
Fantasy	D. F. Hall	D. F. Hall	54
Cloud Castle	Graves	Nesmith	43
Golden Ruffles	C. C. Taylor	C. C. Taylor	42
Three Oaks	Whiting	Whiting	42
<b>Other Than Tall Bearded</b>			
Dutch Defiance (Spuria)	Nies	Milliken	20
Present (Oncocyclus Hybrid)	C. G. White	Milliken	18

### HONORABLE MENTION

Honorable Mention is the first honor that a new variety, duly registered and properly introduced (or in the course of introduction) may receive. It is important because it is the first step that a new iris must take in its quest for the Dykes Medal. To merit Honorable Mention an eligible iris must receive not less than ten votes from judges, each of whom may make not more than fourteen such recommendations. Only five votes are required for the Honorable Mention of other than tall bearded varieties.

One of the most important consequences of this honor is that only Honorable Mention irises are eligible for the official AIS Symposium as well as for the Award of Merit. The varieties receiving Honorable Mention are now added to the Symposium list of eligibles the year after they receive the honor and a like number of varieties ranking lowest in the last previous Symposium are removed from the list.

### VOTING FOR HONORABLE MENTION

#### Tall Bearded Varieties

VARIETY	ORIGINATOR	INTRODUCER	VOTES
Sunset Blaze	Kleinsorge	Cooley	50
Pink Formal	Muhlestein	Muhlestein	41
Star Shine	Wills	Nesmith	33
Bay State	Corey	Nesmith	26
Pinnacle	Stevens	Schreiner	23
Sky Ranger	D. F. Hall	D. F. Hall	21
Ballet Dancer	Kleinsorge	*Cooley	20
Cahokia	Faught	Schroeder	19
Sarah Goodloe	G. Douglas	Nesmith	19
Char-Maize	Lyon	Lyon	18
Blue Elegance	Jory	Salbach	17



Voting for Honorable Mention, continued:

VARIETY	ORIGINATOR	INTRODUCER	VOTES
Carabella	DeForest	DeForest	17
Seafarer	Buttrick	Nesmith	17
Gay Border	DeForest	DeForest	16
Rodeo	DeForest	DeForest	16
Blumohr	Marx	Marx	15
Ebony Echo	Tompkins	Tompkins	15
Heritage	D. F. Hall	D. F. Hall	15
Blizzard	Knowlton	Nesmith	14
Gypsy Rose	Whiting	Whiting	14
On Guard	Carpenter	Nesmith	14
Corporal Mary	Graves	Nesmith	13
Hurricane	Craig	*Craig	13
Truly Yours	Fay	Fay	13
Blue Rim	Larsen	*Larsen	12
Fairday	McKee	McKee	12
Summertime	Caldwell	Nesmith	12
Gaylord	G. Douglas	Nesmith	11
Heigho	Craig	*Craig	11
Helen Fitzgerald	Thorup	*Thorup	11
Illinois Sunshine	Faught	Schroeder	11
Black Ruby	Dolman	*Cooley	10
Blue Angel Wings	McKee	McKee	10
Gay Orchid	Muhlestein	Muhlestein	10
Peach Parfait	Craig	*Craig	10

Other Than Tall Bearded

Moon Gleam (Dwarf Bearded)	Marx	Marx	9
Wee Admiral (Dwarf Bearded)	Marx	Marx	8
Beauty Spot (Dwarf Bearded)	Marx	Marx	6
Blue Mascot (Dwarf Bearded)	Marx	Marx	5
Hoogie Boy (Regelia Hybrid)	Muhlestein	Muhlestein	5

\* Introduction incomplete.

HIGH COMMENDATION

Although the honor of High Commendation is in no sense a requisite to introduction, it is nevertheless true that the opinion of a number of judges in highly commending a new and unintroduced variety has a powerful influence on the decision of its originator in regard to its introduction. A vote of High Commendation for an unintroduced variety that is frequently unnamed and unregistered as well, is an expression of a judge's opinion that it is worthy of introduction.

It is by no means unusual for a new variety to show signs of great promise by the number and distribution of the votes it receives for High Commendation. This preliminary favor which a new variety meets is often reflected by a strong vote for Honorable Mention the year of introduction.

## VOTING FOR HIGH COMMENDATION

VARIETY	ORIGINATOR	VOTES
Lady Dozier	Dozier	23
Leading Lady	Lyell	13
Pacemaker (E-11)	Lapham	13
Technicolor (46-46)	Whiting	13
White Christmas (1-49)	Pattison	12
Love Story	Sapp	10
56-47	Cook	10
6-49	Walker	10
Black Satin (46-55A)	Nesmith	9
Centurion	Wills	9
Parachute II	Loomis	9
9-217	Craig	9
49-1	Rogers	9
Autumn Bloom	Lowry	7
Bellerive	Benson	7
Gratitude	Snyder	7
Polly Thrall	Barker	7
Celeste Star (47-19)	Larsen	6
Clear Sailing	DeForest	6
Gala Finale	DeForest	5
46-75	Carpenter	6
211-1-6	Corey	6
49-17	McKee	6
49-2	Rogers	6
A-14-A	Schirmer	6
F-162A S	Schreiner	6
I-D-48-6	White	6
Alline Rogers	Kleinsorge	5
Apricot Glory	Muhlestein	5
Colonial Dame (757A)	G. Douglas	5
Chiquita	Knowlton	5
New Hope (5-46)	DeForest	5
Paradise Pink (E-9)	Lapham	5
Utah Sunset	Muhlestein	5
46-11	Buttrick	5
48-17	Crosby	5
30-46A	DeForest	5
371 E	Kleinsorge	5
48-27	Lothrop	5

### CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

The Certificate of Commendation, like the High Commendation honor, is for named or numbered irises which have not been introduced. Judging for the H. C., however, is done *in gardens*, while the C. of C. is given for cut stalks *exhibited in shows* held under the auspices of the AIS. The favorable vote of a majority of the accredited judges in attendance confers the award. At 1949 shows Certificates of Commendation were awarded for the irises listed on next page (breeder's name first, then iris or irises winning award).



## CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION

E. Appel: 48-6  
Edgar Arceneaux: Helen Smith  
Clifford Benson: Bellerive, Swan Lake, White Sentry  
Paul Cook: 53-45, 56-47  
Fred DeForest: 58-48, 20-48A, 11-47  
Mrs. H. N. Frazee: Evensong (48-1)  
G. W. Holleyman: Holleyman's Blue  
C. D. Jonas: Regional Triumph (251-1)  
W. J. McKee: 48-56, 49-05, 49-17, 49-21  
Tell Muhlestein: Albright (46-105)  
M. D. Naylor: 49-N-11  
Ira Nelson: 44-1, 46-11, 46-12  
J. G. Richard: 40-P-1, Midshipman (47-LL1)  
Guy Rogers: 49-1  
Mrs. J. A. Sapp: Sunshadows  
Carl Schirmer: TB54, TB681  
Dr. H. W. Schirmer: 91A, B68, B285  
W. S. Snyder: Gratitude (1-U-43)  
Walter Welch: F34

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### DWARF BEARDED IN INDIANA

Indiana is surely trying to do something for dwarf bearded irises. There are more large-scale hybridizers here than in any other state. Paul Cook will have close to 2,000 dwarf seedlings to bloom next spring at his place in Bluffton, and I will have nearly that many. "Doc" (C. D.) Jonas in Fort Wayne and Edward Zickler at Indianapolis have good sized crops. I just finished putting out over 5,000 dwarf seed in the frames and with the holdover should have close to 5,000 seedlings to bloom in 1951. The dwarfs are about ready to pop, and if the ever increasing momentum of enthusiasm continues as it has in the last couple of years, it will become a factor that the Society must consider.

After much harping and bickering the Classification was altered to give the dwarfs an entity, but that is only the beginning. We still need a judging or rating score or some sort of standard to judge them by. Also we need an entirely independent set of awards for dwarfs. With the present set-up of tall bearded awards applying to dwarfs, we can never hope to compete with the tall. It is inconceivable ever to expect a dwarf to

get the Dykes Medal or even an Award of Merit. They are hopelessly handicapped under the present system.

Where there are hundreds of judges traveling over the country rating tall bearded, there are probably a half dozen competent to judge a dwarf. To get enough judges to travel and rate the dwarfs in their season as they do for the tall bearded does not seem possible.

A special award for dwarfs should be established—something equivalent to the Dykes but probably called Caparne or some other appropriate name.

Dealers can verify the fact that hundreds of thousands of dwarfs are sold every year; in fact, it is difficult for many to supply the demand. They are cheap and the dealers do not promote them very much. They are usually sold in small collections over widely spaced localities, and judges will not travel the long distances to see them. I am hoping that in time I can acquaint many judges with the complete display of dwarfs here at the Dwarf Iris Test Garden, so that long travel to see a great number of varieties will not be necessary.

—Walter Welch, Middlebury, Ind.

# New England in an Early Season

HAROLD W. KNOWLTON, (MASS.)

The winter of 1948-9 was very mild in New England, and the spring was warm, with the result that the iris popped into bloom two weeks earlier than the year before. Mrs. Knowlton and I arrived home from our trip to the Annual Meeting in Oregon on a drizzly Friday morning, May 27. Instead of having a week to get acquainted with our own garden and to prepare for the garden visits, we found our garden in full bloom with many of the iris past their prime. Within an hour we were greeting our friends at the Lowry garden in a pouring rain. Nevertheless, we had a pleasant time, talked iris, and ate our lunches in the spacious Lowry dining-room.

The next morning it cleared and I made a hasty and vain attempt to clean up the rain-soaked flowers before the people arrived at our garden. Some new flowers came out and there was a considerable display.

Blooming this year for the first time in my garden were several iris that I liked particularly. Rainbow Room (Sass) is a bright yellow and blue blend which is especially colorful and holds its color well. Geddes Douglas' Cover Girl made a nice piece of color in a pink blend with rounded falls. Star Shine (Wills) looks like a piece of ivory pearl and has a porcelain finish which is distinct and pleasing. Mrs. Nesmith's Bronze Brocade has beautiful red-brown standards and falls lavender bordered brown. Chantilly, Pink Cameo, Jake, Desert Song and New Snow were blooming on one-year plants. Amandine made a nice show on a two-year plant. Dr. Kleinsorge's Rose Splendor I consider one of his finest introductions. Its rose-pink color is very beautiful and it is a strong grower. Another one of his, Pretty Quadroon, is a tan-brown that is particularly pleasing.

Carl Carpenter's On Guard was a late buff-yellow with fine form and branching and was outstanding in several New England gardens. The flowers have great substance with several open at one time. Mrs. Lowry's Yellow Diamond is a very fine flower and sturdy grower. John Dolman's Black Ruby was growing on a one-year plant. It attracted my notice the year before in his own garden at Swarthmore. Its smooth dark red-purple sheen is very lovely and it has no haft markings. Growing side by side were two plicatas which attracted much notice—Mrs. Corey's 72-F1 and Mrs. Lowry's 3-30—both white ground with purple edges, both clean in color and vigorous in growth.



They supplement each other in time of bloom and make a nice combination. McKee's Mary Ellen will be a rival of his Mary Vernon in popularity when better known. It is a rich deep red with flaring falls and has great carrying power. The falls have a lighter edge, making a pretty harmony.

Among my own seedlings, Quechee, a smooth flaring red, was favorably commented on. I also have two border iris which I like—an amoena with small round cup-shaped white standards and light-blue falls which I hope to name Pearl Cup (44-40), and a sister seedling of Quechee which is a smooth yellow and red-brown bicolor tentatively named Cricket (45-11B). Chiquita, my late-blooming Amigo-Wabash cross, has broad, wavy falls with a brownish wash at the haft. I am very happy that it was voted an H. C. this year.

#### FRAIM GARDEN ENLARGED

After lunch we visited the landscaped garden of Dr. and Mrs. Irving W. Fraim in Waltham. For two or three successive years the garden has been enlarged and full advantage taken of a rounded knoll with several apple trees and a large rock. Dr. Fraim gives credit for the landscaping to his wife, while he is the cultural expert. At any rate they have achieved a beautiful result, and the growth and condition of the plants is unequalled. On several visits we had a chance to see the garden throughout the season. Storm King grew larger and better than I had ever before seen it. In a large clump it is a beautiful flower. Amandine made twenty-six increases on a two-year plant.

There were several promising seedlings. F7-7A (Missouri X Lake Shannon) is a widely flaring medium blue of tremendous substance. F3-46 (Syringa X Snoqualmie) is a late lavender-blue, ruffled, smooth, with heavy substance and yellow beard. It has a long season of bloom and is very floriferous. Antique (Carpenter) is a fine soft yellow-buff, rather deep in color, with a light center to the falls.

Later that afternoon we went over to Needham, to the garden of Mr. and Mrs. P. I. Merry. The round formal garden on the terrace has been changed by the removal of a euonymus hedge which gives more space for iris. The iris were growing nicely both here and in the front garden. There was Melanie growing in a good clump. I consider this iris as an unusually fine one for garden effect. Its tall stately stalks are very effective in a group of iris. Their seedling 46-6 (Syringa X Birchbark) is a pale lilac edged light yellow. We admired this last year and it was equally good this year.

The next day, Sunday, a large number gathered at the Fairmount Gardens in Lowell, where is the extensive garden of the Nesmiths.

This is always the highlight of our garden visits. It was a beautiful day and we spent several hours looking over the new varieties in bloom. The outstanding clump was a magnificent planting of Helen McGregor, the new Dykes Medal winner. This clump was equalled by a similar planting I saw in the Schreiner garden in Oregon. Near it was Wills' 79-46, a large, fine, white-ground plicata with flat falls edged purple. Dolman's Spanish Cream was a medium yellow that was impressive. Also growing was his Captain Flint, a dark purple self. Garden Glory (Whiting) impressed me again with its smooth purple color. A fine stalk of Radiation (David Hall) gave evidence of the advances in orchid-pink shades. Nesmith seedling 44-27B was a lovely brown blend with flaring falls and a lavender blaze. On a later visit I noted Wills' Fair Hills, a bright rosy-lavender; Caldwell's Summertime, a nice clump of this appropriately named yellow-with-orange blend; H. F. Hall's White Parchment; his Indian Red, red-brown bitone with broad falls; and his Y-79, a smooth deep yellow, ruffled and smooth and with fine branching. I liked especially Mrs. Nesmith's 1-44-47-Y, a smooth, velvety dark purple self with a dark beard. We enjoyed our noontime luncheon under the trees.

After lunch, we journeyed to Concord to enjoy the beautiful plantings of Stedman Buttrick. He has enlarged his terraces and the planting of iris is ever increasing. There we saw most of the new varieties nicely grown. Mrs. Whiting's Cloth of Gold in a clump impressed me that this is one of our best deep yellows. Buttrick seedling 46-11 was a very fine white with faint line markings on the falls, a short white beard and fine branching. It is from (Easter Morn X White Goddess) X Cloud Castle. 46-4 (Snow Flurry X Lake Shannon) was a blue-white with a short blue beard and lots of starch.

On Monday following I went to the garden of M. J. Barker at Newton. There was a bed of red iris, including many of the Lapham varieties, and another bed of pinks. Among his seedlings I noted 49-07 (And Thou X Chivalry)—a ruffled, flaring porcelain blue with broad falls and a white beard tipped blue; 49-09 ((Great Lakes X Stratosphere) X Chivalry), a medium blue self with a gold beard and flowers well poised; 48-42 (Tobacco Road X Nut Brown Maid), a very rich chestnut brown, and 49-03 (Action Front X Lights On), a smooth, velvety flaring red. His Polly Thrall, an effective pale yellow, was growing with many blooms.

#### AGAIN TO THE LOWRY'S

I then made a second visit to the Lowry garden under pleasant weather conditions. At this and subsequent visits I saw in bloom



DeForest's new yellow, Clear Sailing, a nice clump of Dr. Graves' Franconia and a good planting of Bryce Canyon. As usual the garden was full of the latest and best of the iris. Carpenter 46-1 was attractive with tan standards, red-brown falls and orange beard. Mrs. Lowry's claret red L5-29, with a bronze beard, again showed that it is a fine flower. For the second year her brilliant brown iris, L6-14 (now named Autumn Bloom) showed what a magnificent iris it is. It fairly glows with a metallic luster and is a strong grower. Violet Harmony is one of her best seedlings. It is a smooth lavender self with the form of Chivalry. Its parents are Snow Flurry and Cloud Castle, again demonstrating what fine seedlings those iris throw.

On May 31 we went to the McKee garden at Worcester, stopping on the way at the garden of Win Wheeler at Framingham, just off the Worcester Turnpike. Mr. Wheeler is developing a nice garden and is rapidly accumulating a collection of the latest and best in iris. Pink Sensation was in bloom, and I liked it very much. It has perhaps even more color than Cherie, but Cherie seems to have better form. I think Cherie will be hard to beat. He had good stalks of Harriet Thoreau, Juliet, Fort Knox, Lynn Langford and Lady Mohr. Carl Taylor's Golden Ruffles was a rich golden yellow.

We arrived at the McKee garden in time to examine some of the iris before we ate our box lunches. His Moontide was blooming on a grand stalk, and Fairday again showed that it is tremendously impressive. Orange Gem, his brilliant orange self, fulfilled our expectations from last year. Here we saw DeForest's Orelia, a large red, and his Melodist, a very fine golden yellow-brown. Amid the pink iris, Muhlestein's Pink Tower was outstanding. It has broad falls, well rounded, and a geranium beard. The red and geranium beards go better with these new shell pinks than the tangerine color. Other iris were Tranquil Moon, a nice lemon-yellow, and Lady Boscawen in a fine clump, showing its frilly white flowers to perfection.

Mr. McKee is introducing also this year a blue-white named Blue Angel Wings, which was growing well.

Seedlings noted were 4856, an apricot-peach, with a tangerine beard (tangerine goes better with the orange and apricot tones than with the pink); 4883, a nice pink; 4720-Y, a deep yellow with white blaze which was very floriferous; and 4916, a light blue from Helen McGregor X Distance. But the outstanding new seedling I saw was a stunning golden-orange from Jericho (a variegata blend out of Moontide) crossed with Moontide. It is very ruffled and is numbered 4917. This has received an H. C. this year.

As a special treat, Bill then took us out to his farm, where in the midst of a large field is his "sanctum sanctorum" where he grows many

seedlings and also some vegetables. In the late afternoon we made a short visit to the C. M. Carruth place where Mrs. Carruth is carrying on her late husband's garden. There we saw 49-01 a blue self, and 43-14 ((The Red Douglas X McKee 3987) X Red Bonnet), a nice flaring red with a gold beard.

The garden of Prof J. R. Harrison at Bedford was visited in the morning of June 2. He has a large field with the iris growing in long rows. Buneaux' Sierra Lakes, a blue, was growing in a good clump; also Red Gleam, New Snow, Mattie Gates (the deepest of the yellows with a white spot in the falls), Azure Skies, Danube Waves, Orange-man, and many others.

#### BAY STATE DOES WELL FOR MRS. COREY

From there we drove to the garden of Mrs. Preston I. Corey at Reading. Mrs. Corey has been for many years one of the leaders in this region, and will be our Regional Vice-President next year. Her Bay State is a smooth blue, fragrant and very floriferous. It makes a grand garden clump, and is being introduced this year. The long slope of her garden backed by stone walls of loose field stones becomes more attractive each year. The blue-white clematis was unusually good. It is an unnamed variety which grows on trellises at the back of the garden and has attracted much notice. Keewaydin, her round-formed, light pink plicata, was good, as it has been in previous years. Perhaps the most noticed iris from other growers was Lyon's Char-Maize, a sort of mustard-yellow, ruffled, flaring, with good branching and a self-colored beard. It was a most unusual color. Muhlestein's Rare Marble was a yellow-ground plicata, very heavily marked with a dark plum-maroon.

Mrs. Corey's Amity, a white heavily washed with irregular streaks of blue, is a grand garden variety. She had three nice white seedlings, the best of which I thought was 211-I-6 (Snow Flurry X 20 F-1 (Shining Waters X Gloriole)), which was awarded an H. C. this year. It was a flaring flower with a beard almost white. I am always looking for a white with a white beard. They are very rare. 19J-1 was a huge early white with a light lemon beard and heavy substance (Snow Flurry X Cloud Castle). 50J-1 was the third white. It had nine blossoms with very round falls, good branching and a beard almost white. Her Bay State X Cloud Castle crosses gave some nice flowers. 50J-3 was a light lavender-blue with round falls and no veining.

On June 8 we journeyed to Concord, New Hampshire, where we met Ed Watkins and his brother at Dr. Graves' town garden. We had all dressed for a warm day, but the wind went into the north and before



afternoon it got really cold. The cloud effects were fine. We missed the presence of Dr. Graves who has been ill. We in New England are very glad that his Helen McGregor received the Dykes Medal this year. The flower well deserved it, and it makes us glad that his planned breeding of so many years has brought him this highest award.

Jane Phillips, a flaring blue with a white beard, was greatly admired as in past years. Also his white called Helen MacKenzie. This latter is white with a heavy milk-white texture. Ed showed us a number of seedlings, among which were 43-47G, a large flaring blue with a tall, heavy stalk and orange beard; 40-151 (Pale Moonlight X Great Lakes), a light blue with broad falls, a white beard lightly touched with orange, and good branching; 44-12, a lavender and gray blend with yellow on the haft and an orange beard (Snow Carnival X Mrs. Jack); 46-10, a nice apricot; and 44-69, an outstanding white (Helen McGregor X 40-151). From there we went to the farm at Hopkinton where Mrs. Graves and her family greeted us warmly. We ate our lunches in front of the fire in her living-room and had a very cozy time. At Hopkinton were the new broad terraces with thousands of seedlings, including some very nice shell pinks.

On the way home, we visited Kenneth Stone's garden at Ashby, Massachusetts. As I stated last year, he grows his iris on a hilltop slope and they grow into magnificent clumps. Whether it is the sun and free circulation of air, or the pine needle mulch, or whatever it is, his iris grow better than almost anywhere else in the East. There were five huge clumps of Chivalry at the foot of the stone embankment. Helen McGregor had three bloom stalks on a rhizome planted last July. Sunset Blaze, Dr. Kleinsorge's copper-red which won the President's Cup in Oregon, had seven fans on a one-year plant. There were Mrs. Whiting's Lilac Lane, a large orchid self; three large plants of Kenneth Smith's deep yellow Admiration (about our largest smooth deep yellow); Cascade Splendor, Aldura, Blue Angel Wings, Three Cheers, Patricia, Red Torch and many others. In his upper garden were five stalks of McKee's Redwyne, Pink Reflection, and Misty Gold—all very effective.

On Sunday, June 12, Dr. Walter Tobie invited us to visit the garden at Portland, Maine, which his wife had so carefully tended. Here we again saw her garden-house with its records and telephone at hand. But the loving mistress of the garden has left us and her presence was sorely missed. Aucocisco, her latest introduction, an Amigo X Wabash seedling, was in bloom. It has almost white standards and falls of solid blue without veining. Her White Russia was also there. Geddes Douglas' Red Majesty was a flaring red blend, very colorful with very

wide haft. There was a good bloom on Elmohr, a rather difficult flower in New England. A nice plant of Blue Valley had two stalks. Craig's Wayfarer had a white ground with heavy violet stitching. Cook's Tranquil Moon, a reverse yellow bicolor, is very fine; also Cook's Relentless, a smooth red with nice color. Here we also saw Pensive, Barbara Luddy, Sylvia Murray and the Siberian, Eric the Red.

So ended an iris season which was very early and, to me, very hurried, but withal very interesting. Our iris season included Oregon, Washington, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Maine, and ran from May 11 for about a month.

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## *Iris Impressions -- 1949*

JESSE E. WILLS, (TENN.)

Any comments on irises for 1949 will have to be confined to Nashville and Oregon because I saw them nowhere else. It will be largely Oregon because the Nashville season was none too good for various reasons, and I had to leave it only a day or two after the peak to make the long journey to Portland. This won't be another story of the Portland meeting, however, as that has already been told. But it seems a shame that someone has not narrated the saga of the trip to the West in the special Pullmans. It was a strange, wonderful, and delightful journey, which none of us will ever forget, and which should have been written down while every incident was still fresh. It is too late now, at least for me.

While I saw more irises in the Northwest, it was in Nashville that I saw the new one which impressed me the most. This was Lady Dozier, from Dr. H. L. Dozier, formerly of Maryland but now of Lafayette, Louisiana. It has developed since that this iris had been sent to many sections as a guest and had been seen in Utah, New England and Washington as well as Nashville, and perhaps other places. As a result it led the 1949 list of High Commendation irises, showing that an unknown iris from a new breeder can win recognition if it is really good and if enough judges have an opportunity to see it. Lady Dozier comes from Ormohr X Brunhilde, and the Mohr characteristics carry over in an unusual and distinctive way. It is very large, but it is not the usual round, balloon-shaped flower that the Mohr blood gives; it is wide and very flaring and ruffled. Instead of being a red-violet it is a blue-violet, a



deep tone of blue between medium and dark. The Mohr blood shows in its crepe-like texture and the lines of deeper color shadowing it. It has very heavy substance.

Of other new things, I liked Blue Elegance, although it bloomed rather short on a first-year plant. Its sister seedling, Morning Blue, did not bloom, but both of them came through a trying and difficult winter in better shape than other irises I would have considered more hardy. Blue Elegance was the first light blue I had seen of the Mohr type.

I was also interested in seeing Mr. Hall's Hi Time, which had won acclaim in England before it was known over here. It looked as though it will be worth while, in rich orange or apricot tones with the tangerine beard. Although I could judge it only tentatively, Relentless looked very nice as a new red, but I hope it will grow more vigorously than it has so far with me.

Of the irises I had seen before, Argus Pheasant and Pretty Quadroon, which attracted so much attention at the Annual Meeting in 1948, did well again. I liked them both but somewhat prefer Argus Pheasant because the flower seems to have a little more life to it. Blue Rhythm bloomed beautifully again, as did New Snow. Sam Caldwell spent a whole afternoon taking pictures of this last. I was again struck with the dependability of Lady Mohr, and was strengthened in the impression that Pink Cameo is one of the best of the new shell pinks when it comes to garden and clump effect. It is a rather untidy grower, but there is a lot of freshness and life to its flower. Cherie unfortunately does not grow as well for me as does Hit Parade.

I was of course anxious to see the new amoenas of Geddes Douglas' blooming again. Gaylord had been very heavily divided, but Bright Hour, the one which was such a high light of last year's meeting, again bloomed beautifully as did some of the amoenas still under number. An orange-copper blend of Mr. Douglas', with a wonderful stalk, has been named Pagan Sunset.

#### IMPRESSIVE GROWTH IN OREGON

Many of the things that bloomed in Nashville were also seen in Oregon and in most instances the growth was much better there. We were fortunate in hitting most of the gardens just right and seeing them in cool weather without rain. No three days, however, could have been absolutely perfect, covering so much territory which also varied in its altitude. The gardens of Cooley, DeForest and Schreiner seemed to be either at the peak or within a day or so of it, but only a few of Dr. Kleinsorge's first-year seedlings were open, the Marx garden was not near its peak, and Dr. Riddle's tall bearded irises were just begin-





Caldwell photo

Geddes Douglas' new Pagan Sunset, "an orange-copper blend with a wonderful stalk," was one of the 1949 irises that impressed Mr. Wills favorably.

ning to bloom, since his garden is high upon a mountain and is late compared with most of the others. Everywhere the iris growth was very



impressive, but especially at Cooley's display garden and the garden of Dr. Riddle.

I have grown almost all of Dr. Kleinsorge's things and was interested in seeing them at home. Most of them have grown well for me, at least up to the average of my garden and sometimes better. Cascade Splendor, for instance, is a very rampant grower. Bryce Canyon and Chamois have both done well. I hardly recognized some others, however. I had liked Rose Splendor at home but in Salem it was not only larger and taller but deeper and richer in color. In the Cooley display garden there was a rather tremendous clump of a very tall, spectacular red-brown that was so bright it almost startled me. It turned out to be Sunset Blaze, and the clump was so outstanding it won the President's Cup. I believe Sunset Blaze is going to be one of Dr. Kleinsorge's most popular irises. For some reason it bloomed very short for me the first year but this year it was better and growth since has been so good that I am looking forward to bloom next spring almost as good as that I saw in Oregon.

All the new Kleinsorge introductions were blooming except Opal Cloud. Ballet Dancer perhaps attracted the most attention with its very flaring, broad, ruffed form and nice tan color. Mr. Hall liked this one very much. Of the others, Minuet is unusual in that there is a wash of lavender in the middle of the golden brown falls. El Paso is a much darker tobacco colored brown with a special intensity in its color.

## TWO PLEASING NEBRASKANS

In the Cooley garden I kept going back to a clump of a gold and white iris which struck me as being unusually good. In color it resembled Mattie Gates and Golden Fleece; it distinctly belonged to that type, but it also had more brightness and glitter to it than most such irises do. Their form is usually somewhat languid and drooping but this one was crisp and flaring, suggesting the good substance which it seemed to possess. It was of medium height with good branching. Behind it was a tall medium blue which was not so outstanding but which I also liked, perhaps because it was slightly but distinctly bicolor with medium blue standards somewhat lighter than the smooth medium blue falls. Both turned out to be from Mr. R. L. Lyell, of Nebraska. The white and gold was Leading Lady and its tall companion was Stratosphere Blue.

Here, as in all the western gardens, I was impressed with the way Helen McGregor was growing. It looked even better than it did when I first saw it in New England; much better than it does in Nashville. There were other irises present which indicated that Dr. Graves had not stopped with this as a breeder. I also saw Jane Phillips, a slightly

deeper blue, and liked it very much, and also a new pure white of Dr. Graves' named Helen McKenzie which seemed to be very fine. I preferred this to Spanish Peaks, which rather disappointed me after I had looked forward to seeing it. It was also very white, but the form seemed droopy and floppy.

It is always hard at an Annual Meeting to leave one garden for another, and it was particularly hard to leave the Cooley display garden. I did not want to neglect the very unusual arrangements of cut irises—some large, some small, and all distinctive—in the shed next to the Cooley garden; I kept admiring the wide perennial borders framing an expanse of grass which contained rhododendron and other perennials as well as irises; but most of all I went back to the next area containing square or oblong beds of named varieties, some new and some old, and almost all remarkably well grown, where I kept finding something that I had previously missed.

I had expected Dr. Kleinsorge's garden to be small, but it was even tinier than I anticipated. He has a few irises with other perennials, trees and shrubs in a lovely little garden behind his house. His seedling bed is across the street on a lot about seventy feet square with a fence around it. Part of it is devoted to iris, part to vegetables. It did not look like he grew more than a dozen or fifteen crosses per season. Not many of the new seedlings were in bloom, and he seemed to be working still along the same lines, except for one row of yellows which represented an attempt to put a red beard on a yellow. Of the older seedlings, I took down the number of several tan and apricot ones which were nice. There was an unusual looking blue which came from Ormohr and Lake Huron. His favorite of the ones blooming at the time seemed to be 373-A. This is a bigger Cascade Splendor with more pink and less tan in it. It is a broad, ruffled flower with horizontal falls somewhat smoother at the haft than Cascade Splendor, and at the banquet it was very appropriately named for Mrs. Guy Rogers, who had admired it a great deal.

### SCHREINERS WORK FAST

Everyone felt that Bob, Constance and Bernard Schreiner had done a remarkable job considering the comparatively short time they had been in Oregon. Bob's new house on the corner was admired. Everyone looked at the fine expanse of irises as they were growing now and tried to visualize the display garden that is to be. I was most interested in seeing Pinnacle here, and there were long rows of it growing well. I liked it but at the same time did not feel that it was finished or complete



of its type. The falls are a pale primrose yellow so that there is not too much contrast between them and the standards, and the haft is somewhat rough with white lines on it. On the other hand, the form is excellent and it really is a white and yellow bicolor. So many irises approaching this type have cream standards with a splash of yellow color at the haft fading out to white or cream at the edge of the falls. Pinnacle has pure white standards and the falls, while light in color, are a smooth yellow to the edge. I liked it better than New Era of the Sass's, which has too much green and too many lines in the falls. I have not seen Mr. McKee's Fairday although I hope to next year.

Among the seedlings the Schreiners had several nice pinks and several nice dark ones. The new pinks with tangerine beards, however, are popping up everywhere in such numbers that it is going to become harder and harder to pick out one that is really distinctive.

Bob was growing quite a number of guest irises for various people. Among these, I was particularly struck with Mrs. Whiting's 46-46 which she has named Technicolor. It is a very bright, very smooth rose-red self of fine form, coming I believe from Rocket and Garden Glory. It has Garden Glory's smoothness but in a much brighter tone of light red and seems to be a better grower. As a red, Technicolor shared honors with Pacemaker from Greig Lapham. The latter was darker than Mrs. Whiting's red but with good carry and nice form. It also had a very smooth haft. Mr. Lapham called my attention to a very bright copper on a small plant which turned out to be a seedling of Fred Cassebeer's called Brightling.

The DeForest garden is a most interesting place. It is on a country road between sloping hills. The irises start very close to the road and slope up this hillside and back over its crest, some rows running one way and some the other, back toward some groves of oak trees at the far rear. To the side there is another small grove of trees that shelters the house. A spring gushes out in front of it, making a pool underneath the trees. Fred really loves irises and was delighted to have the crowd descend on him as he has very few visitors because of his remote location. There was time and opportunity to study carefully those of his things that were blooming, though, of course, not all were in flower. There were only cut stalks to be seen or Argus Pheasant, for instance. As happens with everybody in such a case, there were some things I liked and some I did not care so much for. I thought the standards of Rodeo were opening too much, just as they did for me in Nashville. I did not like a shell pink called Color Carnival with a row of bright purple streaks across the haft and going down the fall. This is a matter of taste, however, as a number of other people admire it. I kept looking at Plum Pretty without being able to decide whether or not it had

garden value. The pun in the name is quite appropriate as the flower is pretty and it is plum colored, a dull plum purple color with a "bloom" on it. On the other hand, there was no doubt in my mind about Gay Border, as I thought it about the best pink plicata I had seen.

### DEFOREST SEEDLINGS OUTSTANDING

I probably saw the best new seedlings of the trip at DeForest's. They were not first-year plants; we walked up and down the first-year rows, which were not yet in bloom, and did not notice too much. What we did note were the selected seedlings from previous years. Among them were the three best yellow plicatas I have ever seen, as they were brighter and had more light to them than any with which I am familiar. The one I liked best was 6-46A. This has a big round flower with wide, very slightly flaring falls of deep rich yellow with a neat border of red-brown. It made older ones of the type look tan or gray by comparison. 5-47 was a very bright yellow plicata which was flaring and which probably would have more carry in the garden because there was a white spot in the center of the falls.

DeForest's own favorite seemed to be 5-47B. The flowers on this were fading when I saw it and I could not tell too much about it except that it was very big with a very bright yellow-tan color. The plicata markings on it looked rather light so I think the garden effect would be deep yellow. He had a very big red plicata, called Gala Finale, which seemed to be outstanding among the heavily marked, marbled or "fancy" type. There were also a lot of good tans and coppers, one of which, 16-46, had horizontal falls of a very smooth greenish yellow color, which was peculiarly bright and brassy, hard to describe, but most unusual. I also liked very much a smooth flaring light yellow of fine form which he has named Clear Sailing. It seemed to be in between a creamy yellow and the Elsa Sass type. It does not have a sharply defined border like the latter but it carries some of the same clear color effect, being one of the cleanest yellows I have ever seen. The substance is good and the form excellent. It was of only medium size, however, and probably failed to get as much attention as it otherwise would because it was growing close to the curiosity of the trip. This was 13-46, a big pink and yellow blend which was interesting on account of the "horns" growing out of the standards. The edges of the standards were laced and fringed and some of these fringes were gathered up into rounded, pointed horns about three-quarters of an inch long, mostly of bright yellow color. Some of these protuberances were also growing out of the middle of the standard, however. Imagine the standard as being made of rubber so that you could take a pencil point or other horn-



shaped object and press a horn out of the substance of the flower. This break has come true every year since the first bloom and it has happened a little in one or two seedlings from it. What it will bring in breeding no one can tell.

### LATE BLOOM

Coming home after an absence of ten days, we found, rather to our surprise, that a number of late irises were still in bloom, and one outstanding impression remains of these. A large clump of Extravaganza put on a show for a number of days. Extravaganza is not always too impressive as a single flower; sometimes it seems on the small side or a little strappy; one tends to think of it as a way station toward better things, a breeder's iris. When well grown in a large clump, however, with ten or twelve stalks in bloom, it demonstrated this spring that it is a very fine garden variety. Standing out against the background of a green hedge, the white standards seemed brighter because of the flush of yellow at their base, and the varied red or chestnut color of the falls gleamed in the sunlight.

In reviewing the notes of a trip like that of last spring to the Annual Meeting, one wonders why more irises were not noted down and commented on and why certain things are not mentioned in this article. Of course the answer in part is that no one can see and judge well all the irises growing in a number of gardens in only two or three days. Some gardens I saw only once, although I did get back twice for a brief time only to the the Cooley, Kleinsorge and Schreiner gardens. The flesh grows weary and some things that are blooming will be overlooked or not especially noticed. Also many things are not in bloom or not blooming well that might be seen and appreciated in a visit of a week. A flower can be fresh and lovely one day; the next day, or the day after, wind and sun may have made it look wilted and mediocre, and the next day it may look positively bad, as the blossom fades and dies. Have you ever noticed that at some times all the flowers in a garden will seem to bloom in the same sequence so that one day everything is pretty and the next day there is a let down with a faint air of droopiness and wilt over the entire garden? We did not catch any single garden like that, but we must have caught a number of flowers. There are many bright memories as we look back on the season of 1949. There are also many gaps, but these keep us looking forward to other years.

*It Was a Hard Winter, but Iris Bloomed Again - - -*

## **In Region Eleven**

MRS. SIDNEY W. SMITH, (IDAHO)  
*R. V. P., Region 11*

Early last March when Region 11 thawed out from one of the worst winters on record, iris growers began to check on their new plantings to see what havoc, if any, had been wrought. Considerable loss was reported at Nampa and Boise, Idaho. With no protective covering of snow whatever during severe cold spells in this area, there was a complete loss of many rhizomes in plantings set out the previous summer. There was also widespread damage to dormant bloom stalks. Mrs. W. C. Fox, Nampa, stated that of several dozen newly-set seedlings counted on for bloom, only one flowered. On older plantings bloom was thinly scattered.

At Declo, where snow covered the ground a foot deep from Thanksgiving till mid-February, a 16% loss in new plants was reported.

In Laramie, Wyoming, Mr. Hugh MacKinnon lost two-thirds of his new iris. However, at blooming time the surviving plants, including Sable, Grand Canyon, Elsa Sass, Old Parchment, City of Lincoln (all one-year); Marinella, Radiant, Clara Noyes, Beverly and Tiffany (all two-year) performed beautifully. Mr. MacKinnon's garden is on a windy hill with little protection. He thinks that if the "poor man's orchid" can grow here it will grow anywhere. The season was from June 16 to June 25.

In gardens around Twin Falls and in other areas throughout the region casualties were much less, ranging from zero to 5%.

It is interesting to note that in three known cases iris secured from Southern California came through the winter in good condition.

With the winter past the iris grew steadily in weather more to their liking. There were no setbacks such as May freezes (although there was hail later), and the season was generally favorable. The blooming period in most cases was from a week to ten days earlier and lasted longer than usual. In some gardens extraordinary increase in fans was noted. Many members were of the opinion that their iris were the best they had ever been.

### **GARDEN VISITS**

Perhaps the activity we members enjoy most at iris time is visiting gardens. Judging from reports a great deal of it occurred over the region.



In the Burley area gardens visited included those of Mrs. Clarence Randall, Mrs. K. C. Barlow, Mrs. Margaret Clayville, Mrs. Annie Gierisch, and Mrs. C. W. Vallette. To the last-named garden at Declo over a hundred interested persons came from far and near during the peak season of bloom, June 1-10. They were impressed with four of Tom Craig's *plicata* seedlings. His No. 23, No. 20, No. 24 and a purple (Tiffany X Love Affair) resembling Aladdin's Wish, drew gasps of admiration from everyone.

In the Arthur N. Walker garden south of Kimberly iris grow exceedingly well in fertile, black soil. Visitors are amazed at the vigorous, thrifty growth. One- and two-year clumps often give the impression of being much older. The garden holds a large number of the recent introductions as well as the notable older varieties. When I was over on June 11 many of the iris were past blooming but Ola Kala, West Point, Rising Sun, Nightingale, Lord Dongan, Cedar Rose and Redward were still colorful clumps.

As guests of the Garden Friends, Buhl, the Twin Falls garden club members were taken on a tour of gardens southwest of Buhl. In the Harry Davis garden Brunhilde, a seldom seen variety, was arresting in its tall, dark blue grandeur. The John Meyers garden, nicely landscaped and commanding a wide, enchanting view of the countryside, held a large assortment of well grown, popular varieties. Marquita, in a fine clump, was especially noteworthy. Common to many Buhl gardens is the *Campanula glomerata*, a plant of medium height (12 to 13 inches) whose vivid purple flowers combine effectively with iris.

Mrs. Glen Suiter, Nyssa, Oregon, although officially a member of Region 13, has been "adopted" by our region, as she is only across the state line and is well known to many irisarians here. She reports a very satisfactory season. The biggest thrill to Mrs. Suiter and visitors in her garden was Tell Muhlestein's Pink Formal. With lovely rich, deep color, thick leathery substance, good branching, long lasting and non-fading blossoms and bloom for ten days, it satisfies the longing for a pink iris. "Worth the trip from Twin Falls (about 165 miles) just to see it," one visitor said.

Fast becoming known as a hybridizer of fine iris, Mrs. Suiter is registering two exciting white seedlings—White Satin and Late Snow. Another of her introductions is Rose Frills, which is Easter Bonnet with lace!

According to correspondence received, garden visits were carried on at Nampa, Emmett, Star, Caldwell and Payette. As I stopped off at Payette on my return from Portland via Walla Walla, Wash., I should like to report a pleasant visit with Mrs. Mary F. Tharp. Her

grower, Mrs. A. E. Stone, had just brought in some blooms which we looked over, including two especially interesting seedlings of chartreuse coloring. With the season about at peak (May 20) or a little past, the garden presented a pleasing array of color. Clumps of yellow hemerocallis, pink and rose pyrethrum, and clouds of lavender hesperis (Dame's Violet) mingled happily with the rows and rows of vari-hued iris—seedlings and named varieties.

Being more occupied with the camera than the notebook, I failed to make notes, but I do remember that Mirror Lake (Muhlestein), a tall outstanding light blue of flaring form was fine. Oh Marie (Tharp), not registered, a trim amoena of bluish white and purple and of medium height intrigued me. There were also some very nice seedlings of good form and height in orchid-pink, light blue and white.

We received word from Coeur d'Alene that over 700 visitors viewed the Ralph Nelson garden during the period June 1-15. This garden, by the way, contains all the 1948 Symposium iris. Mrs. Nelson is becoming interested in hybridizing and has set out over a thousand seedlings this past summer on a friend's vacant lot.

Local gardens (Twin Falls) also received their share of visitors. Interest is high among us in acquiring the newer varieties. Of new ones seen here Blue Rhythm, Danube Wave, Chantilly and Pagan Princess were given good cards. Of the older ones, Master Charles, Mexico and White City were standouts.

#### GARDEN CLUBS HOLD SHOWS

Under direction of the Iris Gardeners Club, the annual iris show was held at Caldwell. Among entries were several brought by Mrs. Ruby Patrick, Emmett. She received prize cards on Ozone, Chippewa and Elmohr. A low arrangement featuring Midwest Gem, Purple Giant and shoots of Oregon holly grape gained another prize for her.

A show at Billings, Montana, was scheduled for June 14. As AIS membership has increased in both localities mentioned above, we hope for more news later.

Twin Falls garden club members staged their tenth annual flower show June 17 and 18 at the new Sears Store. There were classes for roses, peonies, delphinium, iris and miscellaneous flowers. The late date precluded the showing of tall bearded iris but it was a good opportunity to exhibit the bulbous, Siberian, spuria and other types which generally bloom somewhat late.

The fulva-foliosa hybrid, Dorothea K. Williamson, is not widely grown here, so when it was displayed at the show its deep purple color, graceful form and unusual manner of growth attracted much



attention. Choice iris roots and/or chrysanthemum plants were awarded to winners of first and second places.

At Castleford, a community 25 miles west of Twin Falls, a keen interest in the newer varieties is developing. On May 29 the Flower Companions staged their first flower show on a non-competitive basis, with spring flowers beautifully displayed in the local Grange Hall. Despite wind, hail and a sudden cloudburst, over 100 persons viewed the exhibit. Our representative there, Mrs. Ed Conrad, stated that close to 150 entries were shown in the iris section. Arrangements of iris—alone, and with other flowers and foliage—were placed about the room. Depute Nombrot in a rust-colored container was especially lovely.

There were many fine specimen stalks, including Berkeley Gold, Elmohr, Mulberry Rose, Firecracker, Patrice, Vision of Mirza, Chantilly, Winter Carnival, Great Lakes and Sharkskin.

Outstanding was a display of William A. Setchell, 48 inches high. Many of the well known older varieties were shown at their very best.

It is gratifying to learn of the growing interest in iris as shown in part by the increased membership all over the region. Mrs. Vesta Saban, Hyattville, Wyoming, is employing a novel method to make the townspeople iris conscious. As Postmistress she has set out by the walk into the Post Office Dress Parade, Great Lakes, Red Gleam, Sharkskin, Klondyke Gold and Nightfall. Passersby and those coming for their mail cannot help but notice the iris.

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## INDIANA COMMENTS

Tranquil Moon is the iris that Mr. Paul Cook was calling "Lemon Pie" three years ago when Region 6 met at Ft. Wayne and Bluffton. A smooth, light yellow of good substance, it made a very fine picture this season in Miss Williamson's garden planted with Distance in front of Three Cheers and Indiana Night.

Gulf Stream seemed like a larger edition of Dymia.

It is probably heresy but I can't admire Helen McGregor very much. The branching is poor, and the large light area on the falls seems to me to be a blemish.

In my own garden I liked Winter Carnival very much. Its large, white, long-lasting blooms were very striking against the green hedge. Sierra Snow,

not so large but very fine in a clump, put on a good show.

Chivalry is as nearly perfect as anything in the garden.

Cayeux's Corinthe was very late and very fine. I moved it to a spot in front of the mock orange hedge, where its large blooms of blue-purple with white beard should really show up.

Lavender Mist, a smooth lavender-pink, was as always very good.

Elmohr has not bloomed in the four years I've had it.

Two old blue iris I couldn't part with are Naronda, tall, a true fleur-de-lis form with a white beard, and Narain, rich and smooth, which bloomed this year with the brown Breeder tulip, Dom Pedro, making a splendid picture from the kitchen window.

—Mrs. E. A. Parker, Hammond, Ind.

# Show and Trek Feature Utah Season

TELL MUHLESTEIN  
*R. V. P., Region 12*

The early part of the iris season in Utah this year was a lonely one, for the majority of iris enthusiasts had chartered a bus and departed for Portland. The weather was perfect while they were away, and upon their return (the 25 of them), rain and more rain kept them indoors thinking of their wonderful trip. But they needed the rest and had seen "their share" of iris for the season, so there was no sympathy from this quarter! Everyone, however, gave me a personal report on the journey, and I was more than unhappy not to have made it.

The travelers were hardly rested before the annual Utah Iris Society show opened on May 21 at beautiful Memory Grove in Salt Lake City (Raymond Solomon, show manager). To make matters difficult, a terrific wind, rain and slight hail storm broke loose in the afternoon just the day before the show was scheduled. You can visualize with me the fanciers hastening outside to cut bloom stalks or to "build tents" over precious specimens. Although nearly everyone was able to exhibit something, Mrs. Luzon Crosby's "After the Storm" vase was a vivid picture of what the elements can do to our favorites.

The show was magnificent again. It was not as heavily loaded with specimens as in the past, but the quality was very high. The Classification Committee suffered hardly any qualms over naming some "flag" that a fancier had brought to enter, for now nearly everyone had been exposed to three previous shows and had, by this time, collections of fine named varieties. It was amazing to see how some veritable novices came up with such magnificent stalks—indicating to me, at least, the value of LOVE and CARE in the growing of fine specimens. Perhaps new soil, too, furnished part of the explanation.

Mrs. Crosby, Mr. Carl Larsen and Mrs. Steve Turcsanski judged the specimen stalks. It was an embarrassing moment when Blue Rim (Mr. Larsen's iris) was brought out among the finalists for the "Queen of the Show" award. The two ladies "overpowered" the one dissenting vote, and Blue Rim came through to stand supreme. However, Mr. M. D. Naylor came close to winning this coveted award the fourth time in a row with a magnificent stalk of Helen McGregor which looked even more devastating the second day. He also showed Pretty Quadroon, which in the blends came second to Mrs. Howard N. Frazee's beautifully grown stalk of Copper Cascade—a near relative—so it was all in the family (the flower family, I mean).



The Seedling Table was full, showing the great activity in this area, and the judges had a difficult time. Mr. H. F. Thorup's Pearly Morn—a Snow Flurry seedling—was adjudged the winner. Mr. Naylor's newest—another Snow Flurry offspring, now named Moonlight Serenade—was second; it is a large, wide, ruffled, clean lemon-cream with excellent, well-spaced branching. How proud Snow Flurry must have been—she the Queen of this very show just two years earlier. Mrs. Frazee's violet N. J. Thomas seedling came in for much favorable comment. It has been named Evensong.

*Iris susiana* (an *oncocyclus* species), exhibited by Fisher Harris, was awarded a "special" sweepstakes award. It, perhaps drew more comment than anything else in the show. I heard one man exclaim, "It isn't real—I don't believe it!" The show room was crowded almost beyond capacity for the two days. No one doubts that iris have come into their own. We must thank the great iris societies and the hybridizers for this advancement.

The trek started in Salt Lake City at the gardens of Mr. M. D. Naylor on June 26. Here we saw Rainbow Room, a smoothly finished blend; David Hall's Dolly Varden (unintroduced), Hit Parade, another superbly grown Helen McGregor and a host of other fine things including seedlings—many of these bearing markers and crossing tags, so we may expect good things to come from this garden in the future. Already Mr. Naylor's gladioli were showing remarkable growth. Some of these were seedlings too, indicating that his affection is not for iris alone, although they are his "great" love!

Next we proceeded to Carl Larsen's new home—and I was amazed to find his rock slide turned into a rainbow of magnificent proportions. His seedlings were thriving bountiously, and although we were forewarned of a short visit we had Carl busy looking up parentages for us—his seedlings were that exciting. His Celestar (a lemon-white with purple flush on one side of the falls) had been exciting in the show as an arrangement in Mrs. Larsen's name, and here we saw a lemon seedling from this by my own Cool Lemonade that was steps upward—making us very covetous, but we are somehow content to wait. He had also a half dozen in the color range of Pinnacle—all of these being grandchildren of his now famous Aldura.

Carl's Beacon seedling was an orange self—large and tall on well-branched stalks—out of Ola Kala X Garden Glory. Now, beat that for a "crazy" cross. But it isn't crazy when you think it over; it is line breeding to the Sass' color line, and it gave results. We became covetous again! Garden Glory X Hall's 42-10 had given some shell pinks. I think he had used Aldura blood in the pinks, as well, to bring in

form and substance. His 1951 seedling bed will be a spot of excitement.

We moved on to Mrs. Ralph Carlston's lovely planting. Her iris are always superbly grown, and she has "dabbled" in crosses and now has some planned work that will have us all searching next year to enjoy with her the lovely things she is bound to get. She had a fine, big, heavy-substanced neglecta from Amigo X Aldura, for which the judges wanted to vote High Commendation, but she declined, saying she'd like to grow it one more year. This is indeed a wise woman! (Would that we could say that of *all* women. Sorry, I shouldn't have said that!)

It was then onward to Orem and Mrs. Crosby's garden. The hail had riddled everything, but these four days later it was looking very well. There were so many seedlings it was bewildering. Her new ruffled seedling named Song of Songs (Gold Ruffles X Cream Gold—so even I am proud) was the center of attraction. It has yellow standards and white falls with a gold edge, and the whole flower is done in Chantilly lacing.

Provo and your writer's garden was the next stop. I cannot give an impersonal report on my place. There were many tears shed, including my own, over my new pink seedling without increase, but some joy resulted over the many pods I had on it by its own pollen.

We moved on to the grand finale in the lovely Hagan (Mrs. John W.) garden in Spanish Fork. Peak bloom was past, but so many lovely things were still in good appearance that even though there had been no opportunity for "eats," everyone felt more than repaid for the trip. Mrs. Hagan's white Chantilly seedling was superb—and it had two tiny increases like grass so we must wait until 1951 to see it again; but at least it had *some* increase. She had many fine pink seedlings, mostly all stemming from Hall's 42-10, which she was privileged to grow and bloom in 1943. The new seedlings growing about the garden will hasten our return next spring.

Your writer was very happy to have the Larsens and Mrs. Frazee come down with Mr. Theodore Greer (of Enchanted Hills Gardens, Joy, Ill.), but hated to see them hustle off so soon to catch "Ted's" train. He took pictures "like mad," and we had little time to visit for I was away when they first arrived. Mr. Charles Salzer, from Bakersfield, Calif., had gone with me to Mr. Milton Holdaway's garden and we had "gathered pollen" too long. Mrs. Homer Ray, of Ft. Worth, Texas, stopped by on her way home from the Portland meeting, and a few days later Miss Nellie Gray, Port Huron, Mich., came by to spend the day. Everett and Mrs. Long, of Boulder, Colo., came during that hard rain and hail storm. It continued to rain the next morning so we



“waded” through the garden in an unhappy atmosphere and could not enjoy either the flowers or conversation under such conditions. Mrs. Thomas Speedy, from Twin Falls, Idaho, came at the very close of the season; there was hardly enough left for proper note-taking but enough for iris talk at least.

Thus closed another exciting iris season in Utah. Our membership in the Utah Iris Society has now exceeded the 100 mark.

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## ANNUAL MEETING — 1950

### *To the Midwest—Land of Tall Corn . . . and IRIS!*

Region 18—one of the country’s real “hot spots” of iris interest—will be host for the 1950 Annual Meeting of the American Iris Society. Sioux City, Iowa, is the place and the dates are May 28, 29 and 30. Headquarters will be the Martin Hotel.

The Annual Meeting Committee has planned a splendid program which will include tours to the famous Whiting garden at Mapleton, Iowa, the noted Sass gardens at Omaha, Nebraska, and various outstanding iris plantings in the Sioux City area.

The schedule already drawn up calls for a 7:30 A.M. bus departure on the first day, so it will be necessary for those attending to arrive the afternoon or evening of May 27 for registration.

Further details will be forthcoming, but the general plan is announced here to enable you to start now on your own plans to attend this Sioux City meeting. It is requested that everyone expecting to attend the meeting write at once to Mrs. Ralph E. Ricker, 1516 Ross Street, Sioux City, Iowa, so that her committee may estimate the number of hotel reservations that will be needed.

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### WELL-ATTENDED SHOW IN MILWAUKEE

A tribute to iris interest in the Milwaukee area and especially to members of the Wisconsin Iris Society who staged an iris show in the conservatory at Milwaukee’s Mitchell Park on June 5 was the amazing attendance—6,549 visitors registered by the electric counter. This iris-lover’s organization was the first garden club to hold a flower show in

the conservatory. It turned out to be an ideal place.

There were numerous well-filled classes for iris collectors and specimens, but the chief attention of visitors, perhaps, was centered on the various classes for arrangements. In some of these, ingeniously hand-fashioned containers were a feature.

Prizes were rhizomes of many choice iris varieties given by commercial growers.

*Kansas City Was Center,  
But the Iris Bloomed - - -*

## **All Over Region 18**

W. F. SCOTT, JR., (Mo.)

*R. V. P., Region 18*

Kansas City—located right in the middle of Region 18—was the center of a great deal of iris activity this year. Activities there center around the Greater Kansas City Iris Society, which was organized over two years ago, and now has about 75 members. On May 14-15 this group leased the Little Theatre of the Municipal Theatre Building, and put on an extremely successful two-day iris show. Results were so very good that the same premises have already been leased in advance for next year. William A. Kolb is president of the group this year. As a result of the activity of this group, and with the help of other interested groups, Kansas City was persuaded to name the iris as the official flower of the city several years ago, and modern plantings of iris are being planned for various city properties. All in all, the Kansas City area is one of the most active in the entire region, and it appears that they will continue to advance steadily. The fall regional meeting will be held there on Saturday, November 19, at the Pickwick Hotel, and the members of Region 18 will be treated to a showing of the John Ott Film, "How to Grow Iris," which was the sensation of the annual dinner at Portland last spring.

### **SPRING MEETING IN WICHITA**

Wichita, Kans., also, was the scene of a most successful show, on May 7-8. It was held in the City Museum, and attracted very large crowds. The feature of the show was a display of *Iris susiana*, grown by John Ohl. At this time the spring regional meeting was held in Wichita, under the chairmanship of E. H. Mattingly, and almost 100 out-of-town iris fans were present. Orville Baker showed a number of slides selected from the regional collection, and then Ray Rickman, of Joplin, showed some slides from his personal collection and gave a short address on how to take good flower pictures. The out-of-town visitors included members from all parts of the region. . . Carl Schirmer from St. Joseph . . Father David Kinish from Atchison, Kans. . . . Dr. Lewis Clevenger, from Kirksville, Mo. . . . Mr. and Mrs. James A.



Sapp, from Joplin, and a great many members from points in Kansas. Rain interfered somewhat with the garden visits, but on Sunday everyone was out at John Ohl's farm, fighting for a place against the fence which encloses his little "Laboratory Patch." At first, it was hard to realize why people were crowded around that little fenced-in patch, with ten acres of iris (or it *seemed* like ten acres) to look at—but inside that fence were the choice items, grown there for convenience in hybridizing and study, and everyone wanted a good long look. Muhlestein's Pink Formal was easily the outstanding new iris seen there. John Ohl's own Belle Amie also attracted much attention.

Des Moines had a very good season, and reports from there say that the outstanding performers this year were, in the order of their local preference, Cherie, New Snow, Chivalry, Blue Valley, and Fire Dance. One of the older whites, Sierra Snow, gets good reports from that area, and of the newer blends, Sunset Blaze did best. Reports on our new Dykes Medal winner, Helen McGregor, from the Des Moines area are not favorable; it seems that Helen doesn't do so well in that particular area, appearing to lose its buds in late cold spells. Interest in iris has not been very widespread around Des Moines, and it is very good to know that more and more people thereabouts are becoming active in the Society. Ralph Dietrick is membership chairman for the state, and is doing many things to promote increased activity in Iowa.

Hurried notes from our very good friend, Dr. Lewis Clevenger up in Kirksville, Mo., say that the season was good, the bloom was excellent, and that Lady Mohr was the outstanding iris in his locality this year. After that, he places his own excellent Evenglow, and then Bryce Canyon. Most people (including me) have been slow to like "The Lady" but her dependability and her strange beauty grow on you slowly, and, after several years of friendship, you suddenly realize that Lady Mohr is truly a wonderful iris.

St. Joseph, the home of Carl and Henry Schirmer, enjoyed a good and active season. Carl Schirmer lost his drug store in a very bad fire early last spring, but don't think for a moment that he let that disaster interfere with the iris season! In fact, he and Mrs. Schirmer were on hand out at Portland to strengthen the representation of Region 18. Carl Schirmer, incidentally, is getting some very nice seedlings, as also is his brother Henry. Carl has an excellent white, with just the faintest suggestion of blue in it, which he has numbered TB-681 (it is Snow Flurry X Katherine Fay), while Henry has a ruffled pale green (real green, not chartreuse) from his own white (14A) X Azure Skies. Since Henry Schirmer is a doctor by profession, and having in mind the famous "Green Iris" of several years ago (white seedling X





Caldwell photo

New Snow was a favorite white in Region 18 as well as in other sections. This fine ciump grew in the Jesse Wills garden in Nashville.

hypo needle), we'll wait and see if it is still green next year! Henry is introducing both the white seedling (14A) and the green one. The



white has been named Lady Ruffles and the green offspring is Ocean Spray. Henry says, "It's a good white after it has been open several days." Other Schirmer iris of this year are Henry's Am I Blue, Coin Gold and Make-Up and Carl's unnamed seedlings R1414, T26, T64, TA413, S482, S716, S1289. While it is realized that numbers, without descriptions, convey little; still, space prevents complete descriptions and at the same time you might wish to jot down those numbers for a good look later.

Good performers in the St. Joseph area this year include Cherie, New Snow, Distance, Desert Song, Rainbow Room, Gypsy, Honeyflow, Bryce Canyon, Cascade Splendor, and Goldbeater.

Two of the outstanding iris gardens in the St. Joseph area are those of Dr. William Hunt and E. A. Byous, and these spots, plus the gardens of Carl and Henry Schirmer, and the nearby beautiful plantings of Father David Kinish across the river at Atchison, Kansas, make it well worth your while to plan a stop in St. Joseph on your way to Sioux City next year.

#### ANNUAL MEETING PLANS OUTLINED

Sioux City has been busy as the Dickens, getting ready for the Annual Meeting there next May 28-29-30. A preliminary announcement of the meeting will be found elsewhere in this issue of the BULLETIN, and every member who thinks he may be able to attend is strenuously urged to sit down right now and write to Mrs. Ralph Ricker, 1516 Ross St., Sioux City 17. Registration will be at the Martin Hotel, beginning at 4 P. M. on Saturday, May 27. On Sunday there will be a visit to the Sass gardens, on Monday visits are scheduled to gardens in Sioux City, and on Tuesday there will be a trip to Mapleton, to the Whiting gardens. Decoration Day holiday has been considerate enough to match up with the Sioux City blooming dates, which will make it much easier for many members to attend.

All activity around Omaha gravitates naturally to the Sass gardens, and this year was no exception. There was a constant stream of judges, national officers, and just plain iris lovers to Maple Road Gardens. With all the exceptionally fine new things turned out by the Sass brothers, it is hard to try and select one or two items for special mention. However, a white (48-67) and a brilliant lavender-pink (48-54) were singled out as exceptionally worthy of future attention by Mrs. Fern Irving, one of the most active and enthusiastic members in the area, and a competent judge.

Good performers in the Omaha area included Bryce Canyon, Chantilly, Azure Skies, Mohrlhoff and Mattie Gates.

The area around Joplin, Mo., probably has as many large plantings of iris as any other similar area in the country. In Joplin are found the excellent gardens of Mrs. Fred Dawes, Mrs. James Campbell, Mrs. Earl Creech, Mrs. Byron Fly, Mrs. Therese Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. Luther McGehee, Mrs. Nanette Harris, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Sapp, Mr. Ray Rickman, and the famous Harman-Wild gardens operated jointly by Buryl Harman (Regional Membership Chairman) and Allen Wild. The Wild family also operates a very large commercial planting at nearby Sarcoxie, comprising large plantings of iris, daylilies, daffodils and a full 135 acres of peonies.

Good performers in the Joplin area this year include New Snow, White Ruffles, Ola Kala, Sunshadow, Relentless, Britannia, Campfire Glow, Blue Valley, Chivalry, Helen McGregor, Silver Lake, Distance, Pink Formal, Love Story, Cherie, Black Banner, Ebony Echo, Rainbow Room, Lilac Lane, Pretty Quadroon, Mattie Gates, Dreamcastle, Evenglow, Bellerive, Glory and Cape Bon.

Enthusiasm around Joplin is kept constantly at high pitch by the excellently grown displays of the latest varieties, and by the personal enthusiasm of many members like our very active Regional Membership Chairman, Mr. L. Buryl Harman.

#### IT'S ST. LOUIS IN '52

The St. Louis area enjoyed an excellent blooming season. The weather was good and everything contributed to a very good month of May. Peak of the season was May 15, and the annual iris show, held at the Missouri Botanical Garden (Shaw's Garden), was that week end. The show was excellent and was well attended. A stalk of Sunshadow (Sapp) was the outstanding exhibit among many beautiful ones. The excitement of an Annual Meeting is already beginning to grip the St. Louis area, even though the meeting will not be until 1952. Guest iris already are being received and arrangements are being made to accommodate a large number, not only of guest iris, but also guest members.

There will be plenty to see, for the area abounds in excellent iris plantings. Among them are those of Joe Becherer, Ellsworth Appel, Cliff Benson (our Regional Secretary), Mrs. Ada Buxton, Mrs. J. L. Reeves, Elmer Tiemann, Ira Stevens and Mrs. Dorothy Palmer. Messrs. Becherer and Benson are the most active hybridizers in the St. Louis vicinity and both bloomed excellent seedlings this year.

Best performers in the St. Louis area this year included Sunset Blaze, Pretty Quadroon, New Horizon, Spanish Peaks, Cape Bon, Saluskin, Cordovan, Auburn, Pink Cameo, Blue Valley, Amandine,



Admiration, Helen McGregor, Chivalry and Sunshadow.

Incidentally, Region 18 should emerge as perhaps the most important hybridizing area in the country within the next few years. Of course those wizards, the Sass brothers, are located within the region, and contribute to its glory—and Mrs. Whiting's beautiful creations are known the world over—but also there are other names coming to the front. Those of Snyder, Tompkins, Kinish, the Schirmers, Mrs. Sapp, Clevenger, Ohl, Becherer and Benson will be seen with increasing frequency, and on iris of increasing beauty and perfection. There will be other names, too, as those just beginning to get good results begin to iron out their difficulties. The important thing is the number of people who seriously are trying for better iris; there are many of them, and from their efforts there are bound to emerge many new and better varieties.

In summary, the year was good in Region 18. The regional enthusiasm created by Mrs. Whiting and pushed tremendously by Carl Schirmer has continued to grow. Good bloom and good seedlings were reported from all parts of the region. Those iris reported from city after city as excellent performers include Sunset Blaze, Pretty Quadroon, Cape Bon, Bellerive, Blue Valley, Chivalry, Sunshadow, Bryce Canyon, Mattie Gates, New Snow, Cherie, Rainbow Room, Glory and Even-glow. There were others, which you will find mentioned earlier in this report, but those fourteen were mentioned more times from more localities than any of the others.

I will close with a wish for a good winter and good bloom next spring at Sioux City.

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## FRONTISPIECE FAKERY

But for the fact that many camera fans are numbered in our membership, we'd never reveal an interesting item about the beautiful page 1 photograph made by Fred Cassebeer when he was iris trekking in Massachusetts last June. While Fred was at the Buttrick garden the skies over Concord were as clear as a Puritan maid's conscience. Thus the picture he made and generously sent down to the BULLETIN was impressive, but there was a sizable patch of blank sky at the top.

Camera-fiend Caldwell, who doubles

at the BULLETIN desk, Air Mailed a plea to Cassebeer for the original negative. then took his own camera outside, pointed it up to a nice cloudy sky and fired away. Later, by means of a bit of darkroom "hocus focus," he lowered the Tennessee backdrop behind the Massachusetts garden scene, with the happy result shown in the frontispiece.

"Printing in" clouds in this manner is not new; in fact, it's often practiced, and the technique is well explained in the October issue of *Popular Photography* magazine. But this may be the first time you've seen New England beneath southern skies.—Ed.

## Southern California Gardens

MRS. OTTO STUETZEL, (CALIF.)

*R. V. P., Region 15*

The 1949 iris season in Southern California was a confusing one. The winter was very dry but broken by some heavy snows and three weeks of freezing nights and we all wondered how the iris would come through. The season was late and we worried that there would be little bloom for the Hollywood iris show to be staged in Plummer Park on April 23 and 24. But the first week in April brought a three-day heat spell and you could almost see the bloom stalks grow. There was no report of winter damage from snow and ice; instead, the cold seemed to be very beneficial as our bloom was never better. The colors were clearer and more intense and we had many more bloom stalks than usual on two-year plants.

The iris show was sponsored by the Southern California Iris Society and was one of the finest seen here. The blooms were in good condition and many of the newer varieties were seen in the specimen classes. Peg Dabagh (Craig '48) was judged the most outstanding flower in the show. Mr. Craig has many fine introductions to his credit. Peach Parfait is a clear warm pink of good substance and is well branched. The beard is several shades deeper than the flowers and the buds are a clear rich pink. Heigho, an oncocyclis hybrid, is tall and symmetrically branched; color clear violet with a small signal patch at the tip of the beard. One could fill a notebook describing the seedlings to be seen in Mr. Craig's hillside garden.

Our 225-mile trip to San Bernardino was a bit disappointing this year. Mr. C. C. Taylor had no seedlings in bloom for us to enjoy. His Golden Ruffles was in top bloom in a large planting, however, and it is a beautiful iris, indeed. A planting of White Ruffles was nearby. It is much liked by many growers.

We saw many of the newer iris in bloom at Mrs. Lena Lothrop's. She had a seedling (No. 4617) something like Tobacco Road. Hills of Gold X Easter Bonnet is an attractive pink blend of good substance and pleasing form. A visit to Mr. Clarence White's garden at Redlands is always a treat for the irises are beautifully grown on terraces on the side of a hill. No. 1-D-48-6 is of Rocket coloring but much better form. The standards are a clear gold, with orange-yellow falls and no dark overcast; I liked that. No. 1-D-48-5 was another of much merit. It had much gray in its make-up.



Our trip each year to the Walker ranch is eagerly anticipated. The houses and gardens are situated in the middle of large lemon groves and we take a picnic lunch and enjoy the heavenly perfume of the lemon blossoms and visit with the Walker families—Mr. and Mrs. Walker, Sr., and Marion Walker and his wife and three sons, increased to four since our last visit. Marion Walker has several fine introductions to his credit. Ventura is both lovely and outstanding, in color between a pinkish mulberry and heliotrope with red brown shoulders on the hafts. Ivory Tower and his spuria, Canary Island, are recent introductions. Among the fine seedlings we saw for the first time this season was a stately cream-yellow, with a slightly greenish cast over all. The falls were wide and rounded, the standards domed and the beard rich gold. It's been named Sespe, and without doubt is as fine as any new seedling we saw this year.

Mrs. David Lyon's Char-Maize has been of great interest the past two seasons. The form is very good, with the flowers slightly ruffled. The "Char" is for the chartreuse tone which seems to overlay the yellow or "Maize," to make an unusual coloring. It is different and lovely.

Professor Stafford Jory's onco hybrids, Blue Elegance and Morning Blue, were most satisfactory. Morning Blue is larger and a shade lighter than Blue Elegance, which is almost a blue bicolor, the velvety falls being a few shades darker than the standards.

Bay State (Corey), a clear light blue self with no haft markings, was in fine form this year. I have grown this variety for four years and each year it performs beautifully and does not fade in our hot sun. Vigil (Wills), a trimly tailored pure white, was in great form this season. Amandine bloomed for me for the first time in three years but the show it put on was well worth waiting for—seven bloom stalks, each with two or three flowers open at the same time. It was breath taking. The form is delightful and the soft cream-yellow flowers quite stole the show from such well known varieties as Cherie, Pink Cameo, Chivalry, Green Pastures and Azalea.

Miogem (McKee), a beautiful rosy blend, holds up under our hot sun where most blends all look alike on the second day of bloom. Amber Gem (Salbach), a lovely bright chestnut and gold blend with fine form and branching, is a nice addition to any collection. Mary Ellen (McKee) grows nicely for us and is a beautiful ox-blood red. Your Worship (White) is a glorious brown self, a seedling of Tobacco Road. Yarkand, an oncocyclis seedling of Mr. White's, is a most interesting flower, color wisteria-violet with darker violet veining. The flowers are large and well placed for an oncobred. Royal Crest (Milliken) is a fine velvety flower of deep blue-violet, very showy in the garden.

In Mrs. Douglas Pattison's garden many new varieties did well. Spanish Peaks was in fine form. Twilight Sky, a beautifully formed pink, was excellent and Zantha was a big showy yellow. Radiation, Mr. Hall's new pink, is very fine; his Sky Ranger is tall and well branched. Space does not permit a description of the very up-to-date collection in this garden, but I must not forget to speak of a new white seedling, Lady Boscawen X Katherine Fay. Mrs. Pattison wanted to name it White Christmas but the name isn't available. Pure white, wide flaring, profusely ruffled, with petals as thick as a magnolia blossom, it inspired a visitor on his way to the Portland meeting to say, "It just can't be an iris!"

In the Miess garden (Syllmar) a large block of the newly catalogued Spring Romance dominated the plantings. Waxy cream-white with frosty finish, and gold at the center, it is one of the best in this class. Many good seedlings were in bloom here. Tenaya, not yet introduced, is a lovely blue.

In Eric Nies garden there are always interesting new spurias. One called Morgen Straal (Morning Rays) was very tall and showy. One velvety brown, seen the year before, is now called Cherokee Chief. This is a really new color in spurias. Two new ones named for Mr. Nies' two daughters will be in commerce some day and a charming blue, called Blue Bud, is so named because of its intensely blue coloring in the bud stage.

I could write at great length about the fine things to be seen in many gardens of this region, but available space does not permit it. Many of us left before the bloom was over to go to Oregon to the AIS Annual Meeting. This report wouldn't be complete if I didn't add my praise of it to other that has been given. It was well planned and well conducted in an area where the scenery is "out of this world."

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#### MITCHELL ARTICLE PLEASES

Until this minute I have never been quite convinced that I am getting my money's worth by belonging to the American Iris Society. I've just read "A Half Century with Irises," by Prof. Sydney B. Mitchell, in the July BULLETIN. I am convinced, I am satisfied; I feel well repaid.

Every word of his talk was enjoyable, as was every moment I spent reading it. It has left me with the delightful sensation of having met and been happy

with a half-dozen wonderful people whom I never in this world could have met any other way.

May I thank Dr. Riddle for making it possible for us to share the thrill of associating with such people as Prof. Mitchell and his friends, Mr. Bliss, E. B. Williamson, Grace Sturtevant, William Mohr and M. Denis. And thanks also to Prof. Mitchell for the pleasant start to my day of canning peaches.

—Margaret Clayville, Burley, Iowa



# *Forty - Nine East*

JOHN DOLMAN, JR. (PA.)

*R. V. P., Region 3*

**L**IKE many another, I was unable to join the Forty-niner Trek to Portland, and so missed what, by all accounts, was the peak of iris experience. Because of the very early season in the East I was not even able to make my usual week end trip southward for a preview, and had to content myself with my own garden, a few quick looks at neighboring gardens in Region 3, and a brief visit to the Boston area. I did see some fine iris, both here and in New England, and enjoyed much better weather than usual in both places. But as readers of the BULLETIN must be tiring of my annual New England travelogues, I shall try this time to skip most of the pains, pleasures and personalities, and confine my remarks to comments on the varieties and seedlings observed and the trends noted in 1949.

The Swarthmore College planting maintained by the Arthur Hoyt Scott Foundation under the direction of Mr. John C. Wister, has been thinned out considerably, but has had many newer things added. No public display garden of this kind can hope to keep up with the latest novelties, but through generous cooperation of several AIS members Mr. Wister has now been able to bring the collection more nearly up to date than ever before. Many of the newest additions were not fully established in 1949, but by 1950 this garden should be well worth visiting.

The garden of Mr. John C. Lyster in Aldan, Pa., was especially fine this year. He does not grow as many varieties as some of our members, and is much more critical in his choice of new ones, but once he has chosen a variety he gives it plenty of room and good culture. I know of no other garden in this region where you can see such solid blocks of iris in clear colors and opulent growth. He ruthlessly eliminates any iris that proves inferior or refuses to grow well. He grows only high-ranking varieties, but he gets around to other gardens, sees all the flash novelties, and buys only the ones he really likes.

Mr. E. L. Palmer, of Primos, Pa., has a much larger collection, including most of the Symposium varieties and some of the latest novelties, but of course in smaller clumps.

My own small garden did rather well this year, in spite of some

loss of bloom from crown damage caused by the mild winter and spring frosts. My seedling patch was hard hit, and almost no one-year plants bloomed, even those with good increase; many two-year plants were stunted and few looked worth numbering. Established seedlings in the home garden did exceptionally well, however, as they have a way of doing even when they won't grow decently anywhere else. It is not my custom to write about my own seedlings (except occasionally for the Scientific Committee), but just by way of example, one pale yellow bitone which grew only 30 inches on an awkward stem at Lowell, Massachusetts, made a fine clump in its home garden with strong, well-branched stems, 46 inches high, and large ruffled flowers that resisted rain like Helen McGregor.

### HOME GARDEN HIGHLIGHTS

Apart from my own seedlings, the things that attracted most attention in my garden were:

Scarlet Tanager, a brilliant seedling from Frank Chowning, of Little Rock, Ark.; it is inaccurately named, but a fine iris, of glowing orange-copper, even brighter than Sunset Blaze, but rounder in form. A cross of Radiant X Sonny Boy, it is bigger, better and richer than either, and a better grower; it is so floriferous that its one fault may be a tendency to bloom out.

Miogem, Mr. McKee's masterpiece, which is proving itself one of the very best I have ever grown; it has richness of color, substance, form, proportion, branching, spacing, poise, rapid increase, and vigor of growth.

Augusta, which, though paler and less striking than Miogem, resembles it slightly, and did fairly well on a one-year plant, perhaps the only one yet seen in Region 3. In its home garden it seems to grow with the vigor and poise of Miogem.

Mrs. Haldeman O'Connor, Roy Mikle's deep yellow, remarkable in substance and branching, rich in its bitone effect (it is all one color, but deeper at the center), and phenomenal in its length of season; it has many secondary buds, and the time lapse between them is longer than in any other iris I know, while the individual flowers last for days. Now well established in my garden, it has confirmed my 1947 opinion that it merits introduction.

Perseverance, another Mikle seedling, which he hesitates to introduce on the ground that is high branched; in my garden the branching was entirely adequate, the 48-inch stems were strong, the ruffled, flaring blue-violet flowers were well poised, lasting, and rain-resistant, and the growth vigorous. The rhizomes look like something grown in Oregon. I know of no iris just like it, and very few as good.

Orangeade, a Mikle seedling with a tangerine beard, good form and branching, and fair substance, from a different line of breeding from that of other tangerine beards. On a two-year clump it was a mass of bloom, more orange than things like Premier Peach or New Horizon; it is nearer the color of Leilani, but better in form and without the heavy veining. It is better in garden value than any other orange-pink I have seen.



Mt. McKinley, Schreiner's well branched, refined amoena, which has been somewhat disparaged by some judges, but did remarkably well for me on a one-year plant. It has pollen, but I failed to get a take either way with Three Cheers, Wabash, or any of my Wabash seedlings.

Admiration, Kenneth Smith's classy deep yellow of perfect form, which finally bloomed for me after three years of failure (perhaps because I had given away all but one rhizome). It is a vigorous grower and fast increaser, but seems to suffer crown damage almost every winter here. When right, it is a beauty, slightly less orange than Ola Kala, but just as brilliant.

Ola Kala, which also reached full height and size for me after some difficulty in getting established. Many visitors in the region had not seen it before, and were bowled over.

Kiltie, a fine big blue from Dr. Graves, which gave good bloom on three side branches despite the accidental loss of its terminal.

Helen McGregor, which reached its full beauty on a three-year clump, and of course withstood all kinds of weather.

Golden Eagle, which in spite of its faults, still stuns more casual visitors than any other iris.

Mulberry Rose, a close second in the stunning department, and one of the fastest growers and most reliable bloomers I have.

Cherie, which bloomed well for its second year here; it seems to please everybody in form and color, but does not grow very well.

Aldura, which did very well indeed on one-year plants, and was greatly admired by all who came late enough in the season to see it. It is not quite as blue in its markings as Blue Shimmer, but is so much better in form and substance that I crossed it with every decent plicata I have.

Cordovan, not generally considered one of Kleinsorge's best, but excellent for me on a one-year plant. It had good color, perfect form and branching, and fair size, though I later saw it very much larger in Mr. McKee's garden.

Blue Rhythm, which I now have in three clumps; a wonderful grower and a finished iris, always good even on one-year plants. Late visitors go right to it, and rave. I am sure that only Helen McGregor could have beaten it out for the Dykes Medal.

Buttonhole, Harold Knowlton's clean little yellow and white border iris.

Dreamcastle, lovely in color and astounding in its breadth of falls, a good performer even on a one-year plant.

Caseade Splendor, certainly one of Kleinsorge's best, though seen only by the last visitors of the season.

### "FLYING SAUCERS" AT H. F. HALL'S

Taking a tip from Mrs. Nesmith, I interrupted my hybridizing to run over to Moorestown, N. J., and see the seedling patch of Mr. H. F. Hall. He has almost an acre of seedlings, field cultivated in long rows, and they are of very high quality. He goes in very heavily for reds, and has vast numbers of them, including many coppery ones related to his recently introduced Indian Red. The latter was quite striking in

a mass planting. He is also breeding great numbers of huge yellows and whites. He likes them much more stiffly horizontal in flare than I do. On short, one-year stalks this type of flower shows up well, but when it grows up to anything like eye level it is seen as a horizontal line with a blob of color sitting on it, its profile suggestive of the "cheese-box-on-a-raft" which sank the Merrimac. Mr. Hall is getting fine substance, good branching, and clear colors, and for those who like the flat form in a large stiff flower he is our most promising hybridizer. He has other types, too, in great variety, but seems to prefer the flying saucers—as, of course, do many, if not most, of our judges. He is most enthusiastic, and seems to have one of the most independent and intelligently thought-out breeding programs I have run across. Like Kleinsorge, Graves, McKee, and others, he uses chiefly his own seedlings, which, however, are derived from the very best available parents two or three generations back.

### GOOD BLOOM IN NEW ENGLAND

A week later I found the New England season even more abnormally early than our own, in spite of which the growth was excellent, with large flowers and tall stems the rule. Mr. and Mrs. Harold W. Knowlton, just back from the Portland meeting, were getting acquainted with their own garden, which had come to peak bloom in their absence. Never have I seen better growth in an iris garden. The deep, rich topsoil, superimposed on an ancient sand dune, gives the ideal combination of fertility and good drainage, and makes it safe for the owner to use more compost and other fertilizer than most of us dare use. I saw no rot, and no borers. The garden is high, with various levels and terraces, and there is partial shade for the varieties that like it, thrown largely by tall oaks with relatively unaggressive roots. Many varieties grow taller and better for Mr. Knowlton than they seem to do for anybody else. Tobacco Road, for example, has twice the usual height, with good branching and huge richly colored flowers, much less stiff than is normal for that variety. Goldbeater (which flatly refuses to grow more than 24 inches for me) was at least three feet high, vigorous and floriferous. Russet Wings was colossal in size and brilliant in color, and even Indiana Night was growing well in a husky floriferous clump. Mr. Knowlton's one-year seedlings, on ground newly borrowed from a neighbor, showed about 90% bloom, on stems averaging almost 40 inches, with a few seedlings from Gypsy towering much higher than that. There was one tragic exception in a shorter seedling from Day-break X Pink Reflection—a lovely pale orchid with very wide segments, but no increase, doomed apparently to extinction.



Among his older seedlings that I had not seen before I noted a large, ruffled, flaring blue violet with wide falls (No. 45-40-A) ; it was lighter in color than Perseverance, but seemed to have similar vigor and refinement. These two and Mrs. Lowry's Violet Harmony should be interesting in comparison. Quechee, Mr. Knowlton's fine dark red, had been divided, and was short on one-year plants, but lived up to last year's standard in form and color. Suzabelle, while not as delicately refined as Suzette, still seems one of the best pink-toned plicatas, even after comparison with Innovation and Confetti; its most dangerous competitor is perhaps an unnamed seedling from Dr. Graves, which was also growing in the Knowlton garden.

Outstanding among the guest irises were two from Dr. Herbert Dozier, of Louisiana. Honor Guest was another "taller Amigo"—perhaps this one is really it, but only time will tell. Lady Dozier, a cross of Ormohr X Brunhilde, was a dark blue Mohr hybrid, possibly the deepest in color since Mohrson, but much bluer; it promises to be a sensation among the—what shall we call them?—Mohrites, Mohravians, Mohradicts, Mohrons. Though less amohrpheous than some, it will not appeal to the Nomohr party.

In the Lowry garden I saw for the first time:

Lockwood, a colorful blend in the dark metallic range, very rich on a dull day, ruffled and flaring in form. Later, in bright sunshine, it seemed a little inclined to fade.

Carabella, a soft peach pink, smoother and heavier in substance than most pinks, refined on close scrutiny, but not very exciting in garden effect.

Danube Wave, a deep-toned medium blue of good form, which did not strike me as a great improvement. It has better falls than Gulf Stream, but is not so smooth.

Amity, Mrs. Corey's subtle plicata, a little on the order of Aladdin's Wish. Its markings are interesting, but for garden effect I prefer a more cleanly marked sister seedling which Mr. Knowlton had growing in his garden.

Mrs. Lowry's Violet Harmony was putting on a fine show, as were several of her smaller seedlings, notably No. L-5-2-A, a perky, well spaced lavender-blue which I had liked in 1948. She has some interesting new ones coming along which I hope to see again. She also grows many of Carl Carpenter's seedlings, the most striking of which I thought was No. 46-63, a smooth golden brown blend from Samovar X Aztec Copper; it was not very tall, and may be inclined to bunch its flowers the way Samovar does. Mrs. Corey's Bay State was performing well, as was Southern Snow, a smooth, globular white of remarkable substance. Goldbeater also grows very well for Mrs. Lowry.

Just a few blocks away Mr. M. J. Barker's garden was in good bloom, with husky clumps of top-ranking varieties and a host of fine seedlings. He, also, is working hard on reds, most of them derived from the Lapham reds; many of them show great intensity of color, but few show smooth hafts or great height.

The veining of Christabel seems hard to breed out. He has many tangerine-bearded pinks, showing considerable progress in two years. His most interesting breaks, however, were in blends and blues. There was a deep plum-colored flaring one from Tobacco Road X Nut Brown Maid that attracted much attention, and there was a row of very perky blues from And Thou X Chivalry, of ruffled, open form and strong substance, reminding me of some in the Lowry and Corey gardens, and in my own. More of these later.

### WHEELER SHOWS PRESIDENT'S CUP WINNER

In Mr. W. A. Wheeler's garden at Framingham I saw the iris of the year, winner of the President's Cup at Portland. He had only a one-year plant, of course, but it had three large, well spaced flowers on a strong, well branched stem. The name, Sunset Blaze suggests the color, an intense, glowing, orange copper, very similar to that in the badly-named Scarlet Tanager. The flower is more ruffled, and somewhat more flaring, but not too flatly so for the color of the falls to be seen. Mr. Wheeler told me the flowers had opened on Friday; I saw them in full glory on Sunday, and when I stopped back for another look on Tuesday the same three were still open, a little sun-bleached but unimpaired in form.

Here, too, I saw for the first time:

Afar, a smooth chamois pink of distinct, if slightly dull, color, apparently quite floriferous.

Shishaldin, a bright, slightly veined blend in the orange gold class, which I had somehow missed in other years.

Pink Sensation, one of the deeper Hall pinks, good in color, but otherwise not equal to his best.

I also renewed acquaintance with Pretty Quadroon, Radiation, Fantasy, and Good News, all well grown and effective. Mr. Wheeler has a very large collection, and holds on to the best of the older ones longer than most fanciers, so that his garden is one of the best in the East in which to see iris and make comparisons.

In two visits to the Nesmith gardens I saw so many new things that I hardly know which to choose to mention.

Outstanding among Mrs. Nesmith's new seedlings was a perfectly huge pale blue from Helen McGregor, having a similar texture but a more



rounded form. It was ruffled, semi-flaring, and well poised, though not very tall on a first stalk. Seen on Sunday, between heavy showers, it was still in presentable condition on the following Wednesday. I have a Kodachrome slide of Mr. Stedman Buttrick chortling over it and looking as if he were about to burst into song. If this one grows up and behaves well it should be a sensation in a couple of years—but how often has that remark turned out to be an epitaph! Another striking seedling was a golden brown blend from Java Sky X Cordovan, a little more stiffly flaring than I like them, but for that reason likely to please more judges. The very blackish seedling (No. 46-55-A) which I noted last year had grown up considerably in height and size, though it still showed little branching—a common fault with the very dark ones. It should be crossed with her No. 47-38-A, a deep purple, not quite so dark but much better in stalk; both have rich dark purple beards.

Several of the seedlings we all liked at Nashville in 1948 were blooming at Lowell, but of course on one-year stalks, so that I could not tell which of them would grow up. They included Wills No. 19-46, a golden brown blend; Wills No. 79-46, a heavily marked clean blue plicata; Douglas No. 845-A, a ruffled light blue suggesting a darker Helen McGregor; Douglas No. 840-A, a coppery, ruffled blend with very wide petals; and Douglas No. 801-A, his fine blue-purple. Gaylord and No. 827-A were not blooming while I was there. From Dr. Graves there were several fine seedlings new to me; much the most promising, I thought, was No. 46-62, a large, ruffled, light (not pale) blue, even better than Kiltie or Jane Phillips.

In the Buttrick gardens at Concord bridge I had my first look at the famous Spanish Peaks. But what I saw could hardly have been typical—a huge, droopy flower of poor substance and extremely long pinched falls, the subject of much comment from the visitors, but little praise. It must surely have been very different in Colorado to have gained its high rating. Mr. Buttrick had fifty whites in his seedling patch that looked better, though there is no great disparagement in that statement, for Mr. Buttrick has been very successful with whites. The favorite this year seemed to be his No. 46-11, a large, semi-flaring white with a hint of chartreuse at the center of the falls. As usual, Mr. Buttrick had a wonderful display of the newer introductions in large clumps. I wish I knew how he gets them established so quickly; he must start before the originators. One never sees anything that looks like a one-year plant in his garden.

In a brief visit to Mrs. Corey's garden at Reading I saw many new seedlings of high quality, especially blues and whites. Bay State was striking in its home garden, as it was elsewhere. But I think I liked

best her smaller paler blue, No. 28-H-2, which seemed like a daintier edition of Sylvia Murray. Near it was a fine clump of the once-popular Aline (which she has used in her work with blues), and it struck me that for clarity of color in a light blue that variety has not been greatly surpassed. Mrs. Corey's best white seemed to be No. 50-J-1. from Bay State X Cloud Castle.

#### INTERESTING SEEDLINGS AT MCKEE'S

Mr. McKee's garden in Worcester is always one of the most exciting for any visitor interested in hybridizing. Here I saw Fairday, Blue Angel Wings, Augusta, Jericho, and Orange Gem growing in established plantings, though the last had been divided and was a little short. The first seedlings from Jericho and Fairday were blooming; they showed good size, form and substance, and some good breaks in color, but the Fairday seedlings showed no particular progress toward the hoped-for yellow amoena. Some judges who have seen Fairday and Pinnacle say that the latter comes nearer the desired color, but lacks the substance of Fairday. In any case, a good many breeders are going to be crossing these two next year, and crossing both with anything that looks like a yellow amoena. Mr. McKee also had many fine seedlings from Miogem, the best of which seemed to be No. 49-14, a flaring, dark, metallic blend of large size and excellent form.

One remarkable seedling had a curious lavender blaze on the falls in the shape of a five-toed bird track; it was too droopy a flower to be named, but should be crossed back to Miogem or to some other dark blend with good form and a lavender blaze. The two best new seedlings were a flaring light blue from Helen McGregor X Bay State and a brilliant golden yellow seedling of Jericho. Mr. McKee has been most fortunate in the breeding characteristics of some of his own originations; an amazing number of high quality seedlings, both in his garden and others, derive from Mary Vernon, Redyen, Moontide, Miobelle, and Miogem. He also has some good pink seedlings from several different lines of breeding; the best that I saw were tentatively named Apricot Pink and Bridal Pink. He had Muhlestein's Pink Tower in bloom, a much-publicized pink that I had not seen before; it was large and tall, but did not seem particularly noteworthy in color or form. I have now seen some thousands of "pink" seedlings in many patches including my own, but have yet to see any great improvement over David Hall's pinks of 1944, 1945, and 1946; Cherie, Fantasy, Radiation, Heritage, and Ballerina still rank highest in my notebook. However, with his canny, careful breeding, Mr. McKee may well be the one to break the impasse.



## CHANGES NOTED IN JUDGING

To sum up my impressions of 1949, I should like to make two general observations. The first is that, in spite of the rush of premature bloom, it was a pretty good season in Regions 1 and 3. The second is that tastes and tendencies in iris judging seem to be changing a little, and perhaps growing a little less dogmatic.

In the matter of branching, for instance, no less than three experienced judges, all hybridizers and introducers of fine iris, told me independently that they were changing their minds and their standards.

"This insistence on low, wide branching," said one, "is all very well for cut stalks in milk bottles, or for specimen stalks on one-year plants, but in garden clumps its value has been exaggerated. What matters is the placing and spacing of the flowers, and sometimes you get good spacing with relatively short branching. Low, wide branching may even be a disadvantage in the clump, for the branches may cross and crowd each other, and some of the flowers may be too low among the leaves."

"Good spacing in the clump," said another, "depends more on the timing than on the length of the branches. When too many buds open at the same time the flowers often crowd each other, and it is worse on long branches than short ones." Another pointed out that the very low branch, having got an early start, may grow almost as fast as the main stem, bringing its flowers up to nearly the same height as those on the upper branches. No doubt these are still minority opinions, and I do not suppose any of us want to go back to the pussy-willow stalks of the early *plicatas* like *Mme. Chereau*; but a good many seem willing to admit that *Snow Flurry* does not make a half bad clump. And I have heard several judges say that they would rather have a clubby stem that never goes down, like that of *Radiation* (which Mr. Hall thought it necessary to apologize for in 1947), than a perfectly proportioned candelabra stem which, if not staked, lies down to rest whenever the wind blows or the sun shines bright or the rain descends—as, unfortunately, a great many of them do.

In several gardens, recently, including my own, I have seen seedlings that suggested a new trend in form. Most of them are in the paler blues, and many of them derive from *Chivalry*. They are inclined to have open standards and a perky kind of poise, as *Azure Skies* had; but they are different from the latter in several ways. They have smoother, heavier, more opaque substance, a less crinkly texture, and a different habit of branching; the flowers are ruffled, but firm, and the open form seems not an accident but part of the legitimate design.

The stems are usually erect and strong, and though the side branching may be short, like that of Snow Flurry, the spacing and timing are likely to be such that the clump appears to be covered with flowers, yet with no two of them touching. Most of those I have seen have small flowers, though some of Mr. Barker's, which I mentioned earlier, are of fair size; but the success of Azure Skies is proof that people will accept a small iris if it has poise and daintiness. The heavier substance of the newer ones makes it possible to get an illusion of delicate, fluffy grace in a ruffled flower that is really very tough and weather-resistant—a highly desirable objective. But the significant thing about them is not just that these seedlings exist, but that the judges I talked with did not instantly condemn them for their open standards and short branching; instead they seemed rather pleased with them. Five years ago such things would have been promptly rooted out of any seedling patch in the AIS.

Perhaps we are getting around to the point of seeing that what matters is not whether standards are open or closed, but why they are open or closed, what they conceal if closed or reveal if open, and what effect their form and substance have upon the total beauty of the flower in the garden and upon its lasting qualities. There is good reason for disliking most open standards in bearded iris; the simple fact is that most of them are so because they are weak or mushy. And what they reveal is often no more than the general inadequacy and messiness of the whole flower. But there is no reason to suppose that good quality, substance, proportion, texture, grace, and poise can occur in only one stereotyped form. What I am trying to say is that I heard rather less dogma and rather more sweet reasonableness from iris judges in 1949. I hope it was the same in Portland.

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#### LONG-LASTING LABEL

My iris are plainly labelled. The markers I am using may be of interest to others. I use 2- by 2-inch Douglas fir, cut into 28-inch lengths and pointed at one end. The name of the iris is burned in on a vertical plane. The stakes are then submerged in a solution of pentachlorophenol (5% in base oil or kerosene) for 24 hours, drained and allowed to dry, and then dipped in linseed oil and allowed to dry. Pentachlorophenol is a wood preservative and

protectant now available at many paint stores and also carried by some seedsmen.

These markers cannot be considered inexpensive, but if they have good lasting quality, I feel that they are worth while for my use. I place them about 4 inches in front of the rhizome and drive them in about 8 inches. This large marker may be objectionable to some, but I assure you that anyone can find such a label and read it without bifocals.

—Eileen L. Donohoe, Clinton, N. J.







*Dwarfs Vie with Tall Bearded to Make . . .*

## A Grand Season in Region 6

MRS. GEORGE D. ROBINSON, (MICH.)

*R. V. P., Region 6*

The season began for some of us in Walter Welch's entirely unique Dwarf Iris Test Garden at Middlebury, Indiana, where iris history is being made, and amazing history indeed. His 1949 candidate for Miss American of the iris world is not a tall, regal beauty, but an exquisitely formed, *clear green* dwarf amoena with flaring falls!

This test garden, inaugurated by him and Mrs. Silas Waters when she was Regional Vice-President, as a regional project for educational and experimental purposes in dwarfs, has become national in its scope and representation, and successful beyond their fondest dreams. Not only does it display around two hundred named varieties and all of the species and seedlings from most of the dwarf breeders of the country, but also about three thousand dwarf seedlings—making a dwarf iris display unsurpassed anywhere, any time.

The Welch home and plantings lie at the end of a street on an ascending slope. At the back, a large tree shades a walled terrace; still ascending, sweeps of French hybrid lilacs and tree peonies outline paths and drives, and long beds of dwarfs and the finest of tall bearded irises and peonies curve around the downward slope to the side. Farther back, and to one side, are nearly two acres of seedlings, dwarf and tall.

It is in the dwarfs where the most spectacular progress has appeared, and by leaps and bounds. The "little fellows" have been completely modernized both in color and in form. No longer are open standards and tucked-under falls the rule—they're not even tolerated; and the old "purples and yellows" have given way to pure whites, lilac and lavender, and yellows so deep they are almost orange—and pinks and blues. New colors, new patterns, earlier bloom, smaller size and perfect proportions, with wide petals and hafts and flaring falls!

### IRIS ROYALTY RECEIVES HOMAGE!

Caldwell photo

Guests from far and near viewed iris aristocrats in the Bluffton, Ind., garden of Miss Mary Williamson when Region 6 held a meeting. Left to right: K. W. Johnson, Akron, Ohio; Miss Williamson; Mrs. Henry Grant, Louisville, Ky.; Mrs. Paul Cook, Bluffton; Earl Evans, Fort Wayne; Mrs. A. W. Bender, Grosse Pointe, Mich.; Geddes Douglas, Nashville, Tenn.



For the first time among dwarfs real amoenas and variegatas have appeared and *from pure dwarf blood*. From a combination of chamaeiris X pumila blood came several amoenas, the best being G-501. Imagine an exquisitely dainty and charmingly proportioned little lady with pure white standards and flaring falls of clear, clear green with a pure white border! And I mean *green*—not greenish yellow or muddy white, but the clear, beautiful green of its own foliage!

From the same blood lines were a number of true variegatas, with bright yellow standards and red falls with yellow border, the best of these being numbered G502. Other new things in Walter's dwarfs are a pure, immaculate white—beard, haft and all, and a deep yellow with pure white beard. These are true dwarfs, only a few inches high, but full and well rounded and blooming above the foliage.

Paul Cook's No. 4300, the "pinkest dwarf," was a lovely thing and also No. 2043, a fine orange.

To aid further in bringing together "dwarf minded" people and to stimulate enthusiasm, Mr. Welch organized and directs three Dwarf Iris Round Robins, with over thirty members. A Robin trek to his Dwarf Iris Test Garden is planned by members in the not too-distant future; these activities, in conjunction with the wealth of named varieties and new seedlings, make this the Mecca for all dwarf enthusiasts.

Other hybridizers of Region 6 are also doing serious and splendid work in the miniatures; Paul Cook at Bluffton has 2,000 dwarf seedlings blooming next spring, and Clarence (Doc) Jonas at Fort Wayne and Edward Zickler at Indianapolis are also making dwarf history. They're on the way to making Region 6 the Number One region!

Although the dwarf work lies closest to his heart, Mr. Welch is also producing some excellent tall bearded irises. A fine blue seedling, which won Certificate of Commendation at the Fort Wayne meeting, has since been named Blue Blazes; then there is G-14, a white with a large fuzzy deep blue beard, a large flower of exceptionally fine shape, and very ruffled. In reds, F-41, from a cross of Ranger X E. B. Williamson, is a bright red of pure coloring and good size. Walter has long been breeding for fine oranges, and since the blooming of 1949 seedlings he is no longer using Rocket as a model to judge them by.

#### MRS. WATERS' HILLSIDE GARDEN

The lovely hillside garden of Mrs. Silas Waters at Cincinnati, Ohio, which contains a large collection of beautifully grown iris, is decidedly worth a visit. The large house sits eight hundred feet above the Ohio River on one side, with the garden descending at the back in a series

of sweeping terraces a hundred feet to the street level. On a clear, sunshiny Sunday morning, each terrace perfectly groomed and filled with the finest of modern irises, charmingly blended in color, with here and there a large tree to give strength to the plantings, and sun dials, a pergola and pools for points of interest, it was a picture long to be remembered. This garden was made with loving care; as it was not possible to deliver the loads of rich dirt required directly where they should be placed, the soil was carried down the slopes in pailfuls. To settle the drainage problem was an engineering feat of no small proportions, and it was planned and carried out under Mrs. Water's supervision. The garden comprises about an acre of ground, and is cared for entirely by Mrs. Water's, with occasional help for the heavy work.

Out of all the hundreds seen there, I shall mention only the newest, the most striking or the most appealing to me.

Of the whites, five were outstanding: Spanish Peaks of huge size and round form, all completely white with no tinge of color. Alba Superba was tall, superbly poised—"divinely tall and most divinely fair"—and very fragrant. I am particularly fond of fragrant irises. White Ruffles, from Carl Taylor of California, had flaring falls and beautiful form, a charming ivory tint in the bud. Whether this iris is not yet well distributed or does not do well in our region, I do not know. This garden was the only place where I found it. Don Waters' new Whistling Swan was the fourth; there is no more generally dependable or satisfactory white. It is hardy, a thrifty grower and good increaser and withstands day of wind, rain or sunshine. And what an intriguing name!

The flower of Orville Fay's New Snow was breathtaking in its beauty, but the branching was disappointingly high. It reminds me of an improved Snow Flurry—a favorite of mine.

In the blues, I found new Blue Valley entirely to my liking, with its large flower and fine blue coloring, flaring perky carriage and good branching. Chivalry, of course, did Jesse Wills proud with its broadhafter flaring falls of heavy substance. At first I thought its color dull, but as I saw it later I became very fond of it. But the disappointment of all the blues was Helen McGregor. Yes, I know it just won the Dykes; it is a lovely thing, every inch a lady in form and carriage, but it definitely isn't that "pure light blue" that I expected, and it *does* fade. The touch of lavender heritage from Cloud Castle was apparent, but it is a must have, although it shouldn't be purchased sight unseen.

Blue Rhythm, the runner-up, had a definite purple cast and something odd in the shape of falls. Sierra Lakes, a new one by John Buneaux of Chicago, caught my eye and held it—I think this will be further heard



from. It is of fine blue coloring and has good branching and excellent size.

Although I hovered over Bay State all day, it refused to open entirely.

Silvery blue Distance calls you from across the garden; this iris is already a favorite in Region 6. Azure Skies, of course, always has been.

Of the older blues three were, even in 1949, still standouts—Mrs. J. L. Gibson, tall, dark and handsome; Waverly, an old iris with new form; and Gloriole, capricious and everlastingly beautiful!

A few of the host of fine yellows which lighted the garden were Jasmine, smooth, smooth golden yellow of heavy texture—both beard and flower about the same rich shade. There's a fine iris. Cloth of Gold was very striking with its heavy orange beard and perfect branching—a three star iris in my book. Golden Ruffles, golden but not too ruffled, and Goldbeater were also very, very fine. I could be happy with either, were t'other fair charmer away!

Fantasy and Radiation stood close together, where I could compare them, and both are lovely. But I preferred Fantasy, larger and softer in color. Cloud Castle, soft-toned and flaring, with rounded standards; Lilac Lane, a gentle, delicate lavender of fine form, were there, and Nankeen, bright and beautiful. Oriental Bazaar, another newer one from John Buneaux, was as colorful as any, of reddish amber and lilac tones—bright but not glaring.

Lapham's Afar, a medium size, has excellent garden value; his Bonny, always called "peppermint pink," is very smooth textured and heavy of substance, with an absence of veining, on a good plant.

#### SUPERIOR SEEDLINGS AT DON WATERS'

May 25 we visited the garden of Don Waters at Elmore, Ohio. Mr. Waters' very critical evaluation of his own seedlings and the resultant high quality of his own introductions is earning him a reputation as a careful, conscientious breeder. He is, also, that answer to the buyer's prayer—a breeder who believes sincerely that no iris need be introduced for more than \$5! Sunny Ruffles, the new Whistling Swan and Orangeman are his introductions.

Among several thousand fine seedlings a number seemed to me to be entirely worthy of introduction, but Mr. Waters shook his head. One was a large blue plicata, a cross of Blue Shimmer and Seduction, with clear color and a better pattern than Blue Shimmer, and of superior form. A very lovely thing is No. 247, an Ormohr-Majenica seedling;

it is an unusual shade of bright but soft pink. It has fine form, too, but because, like all Mohr crosses, it is very slow of increase, neither will this be introduced. It is a luscious color.

However, introduction of No. 248, a beautiful pinkish-lilac, is possible. This is a cross of Dreamcastle and SQ 72, and was enthusiastically received by many visitors later in Paul Cook's garden during the regional meeting. Another, No. 1048, is a novelty; it is powder blue with a distinct olive haft, the olive extending well down into the falls. I believe this is from Azure Skies and Orangeman. A large, well formed flower is No. 1548, with chartreuse shadows throughout a bloom of pale gray.

In his home garden Mr. Waters has a fine collection of the best of the new irises; they are planted about three feet apart to give each plant sufficient air and sunshine, and they respond beautifully. A large clump of Whistling Swan stood at one side, serene and lovely, and near it Edward Lapham was richly red. Another clump of older Sunny Ruffles lighted one corner. Paul Cook's Distance was a silvery mass of bloom, and Cloud Castle, as usual, was tall and tranquil. Cahokia and Orchid Lady were not yet in bloom; neither was Gypsy, which Mr. Waters regards as the best variegata.

Some which I had not seen before were: General Patton, of brilliant hue but wide open standards; nearby Casa Morena was similar in color, but with better form; David Hall's Briarwood, an entrancing blend, and Good News, old gold or mustard yellow. I liked the color, but the bloom was down in the leaves. Cordovan was a disappointment in color—I could see nothing outstanding in it. Bataan was fine. Paul Cook had a "raspberry pink" in bloom here which was very attractive—I like these new rich pinks.

At a little distance from Waters' Orangeman, which is very smooth, somewhat tailored, and a gorgeous soft orange, was Mr. McKee's new Orange Gem—a lovely, large, rather ruffled flower of fine color, but with all blooms rather bunched, giving vague effect to the stalk of blooms.

Lapham's pink G-10 seemed excellent; Pink Lace, I thought, was small and as someone else has said, neither very pink nor lacy. Chantilly made a lovely sight, but I think the falls look puckered rather than ruffled.

The garden was full of lovely blues, Chivalry looking much brighter and proving its real worth; Bandmaster was tall and well poised.

As I left the planting, with a longing, backward glance toward its beauty, Distance was the outstanding blue in the garden.



## FORT WAYNE GARDENS—THE REGIONAL MEETING

May 28, on our way to the regional meeting of Region 6, which was held at Fort Wayne-Bluffton, Indiana, we stopped for a few minutes at the planting of Earl Evans outside Fort Wayne. As his former brookside garden proved to be in a frost area, he has recently moved his irises to a higher location somewhat back from the road, where they are growing very well, indeed. Paul Cook remarked that Sable grows taller for Mr. Evans than it ever did for him, its breeder. A number of fine seedlings give good promise, too; the Evans' young daughter is a hybridizer on her own and is very much interested in this work.

As a part of the regional meeting, a seedling show was held Saturday afternoon at the Hotel Van Orman. The number exhibited was not so large as expected; Don Waters' armload of choice entries was delayed until too late for the judging. The first prize winner was Clarence Jonas' fine orchid pink, No. 251-1, whose parentage is (Gudrun X Great Lakes) X No. 479, a pink. This has been registered under the name Regional Triumph. The second winner, which was very, very close to the first in every respect, was Walter Welch's F- 34, a grand blue from B-50 (Gudrun X Easter Morn) X Great Lakes. This has also been registered, and is called Blue Blazes.

After the seedling show we visited the home garden of Mr. Jonas, outside of Fort Wayne. Mr. Jonas undoubtedly has some fine named varieties, but his large and beautiful display of seedlings completely overshadowed everything else. They numbered about six thousand, and he writes me that next spring he expects to bloom eight thousand tall and a thousand dwarfs and intermediates. I believe, too, that this is his first real seedling bloom season. Miss Paula, the young Jonas daughter, who is a real hybridizer, too, acted as our hostess and gave us very clear information as to parentages. One lovely light blue at the end of a row which captured everyone's eye from a distance has been named Blue Yonder; its parentage is Snow Flurry X (Melitza X Flora Zenor).

The banquet held Saturday evening at the Van Orman was very well attended; the food and all arrangements throughout this meeting were splendid, and under the charge of Mrs. Clarence Jonas as general chairman of a fine committee. I have not yet received a full report, and I do not know the exact number in attendance, but it seemed as if all the region members must have been there, leaving only baby sitters at home with the irises. Reports were received from the two directors of the tall bearded Iris Round Robins, which were a new

project instituted by Mrs. Silas Waters last fall. After the seedling awards by Earl Evans, an interesting panel discussion was held with Don Waters as moderator, and Dr. Franklin Cook, Mr. Greig Lapham, Mr. Walter Welch and Mrs. C. W. Naas as speakers, and Geddes Douglas as Commentator. And what a Commentator! Backed up by Sam Caldwell, editor of the BULLETIN, they were entertainment in themselves. A drawing for good irises as door prizes was held by Mrs. Frances Horton, and interesting slides of new irises and garden scenes were shown. And I think it was about the hottest evening of the season up to then!

It was at this meeting that Mrs. Silas Waters retired from the post of Regional Vice-President of Region 6 which she has held for some years; under her direction Region 6 has grown and made much progress, and she is indeed entitled to retirement to enjoy her own lovely garden of irises.

#### BLUFFTON—THE COOK AND WILLIAMSON GARDENS

Sunday morning, May 29, we left Fort Wayne and headed south to Bluffton for the Cook and Williamson gardens. To enter the Cook garden, sheltered on three sides by tall trees and a slow-moving stream, with the benediction of the sun on the rainbow-hued irises, is to enter a sanctuary for iris lovers—a haven of rest and beauty.

Here was the outstanding seedling seen during the two days' meeting—Cook No. 56-47, the blackest red any of us had ever seen. Viewed under a microscope lens held by Dr. Franklin Cook, it was *still* thick, black plush with an inner glow. Almost unanimously, this seedling won the popularity award, the balloting for which took place later in Mary Williamson's home garden. You will surely be seeing this one.

His No. 53-45 was a buffy-tinted pink, with tangerine beard, wide ruffled falls, rounded standards and good branching. A light blue with the form of Azure Skies, but bluer, was No. 141-47. Distance was everywhere in evidence.

Here I finally had a view of Pierre Menard, Miss Faught's very fine blue, and like it very much; in the field rows of many thousand seedlings someone discovered one much like it which appeared to be even better. We also found a fine, lustrous purple of perfect form and wavy falls, not ruffled, but wavy.

Pink Cameo seemed much pinker than Barbara Luddy, and to have better standards than Cherie, but the latter's falls were more prettily flared. Don Waters' No. 248, the pink-lilac, was here—a very large, full flower, of heavy substance.



Black Forest was rather small, and Black Banner was not so large as I had expected, either. Rocket burned badly in the sun and the famous Amandine looked rather thin. Mr. Lapham's Frank Pugliese was a brilliant, dark red—a fine looking iris.

Following a most delicious luncheon at the Dutch Mill in Bluffton, topped off with the grandest pecan pie I ever ate, we left for Mary Williamson's home garden. Due to the illness of Mrs. Williamson, Mary was unable to leave the home planting, but the famous Williamson hospitality was unimpaired and the garden contained enough new irises to satisfy even the most critical and demanding. It was a fine, warm, sunny afternoon, and most of us spent it right there in the back yard, enjoying seemingly unending refreshments—just loafing and drinking in the beauty of the irises.

Five beds held the newest and many of the best popular irises. Paul Cook's new orchid-pink, Pink Bountiful, introduced by the Williamson Longfield Iris Farm in 1949, was large and heavy textured, and his Relentless, a solid, rich and deep red with a yellow beard. Dr. Kleinsorge's Rose Splendor, a watermelon pink with a slight coppery cast, and Jesse Wills' Carillon, of ripe apricot coloring, looked good enough to eat.

All the array of pinks showed up beautifully—peach, tangerine, strawberry and orchid (sounds like ice cream!), Fantasy and Radiation again, Lynn Langford, Premier Peach, Bonny and Orville Fay's New Horizon. Schreiner's Choir Boy in blue and white, has a clean, well-scrubbed look. All the newest Cook and Waters seedlings were again in evidence, and Distance was everywhere—as it should be! It has great carrying power for so light a blue.

By this time, I had seen so many new and beautiful irises in two days' time that I could absorb no more. And so after all this feast of beauty, I returned to my own garden of—to paraphrase Geddes Douglas' "horseweeds and thistles"—quackgrass and sorrel. However, our season is later here by two or three days, so between the large commercial planting of A. F. Bloese & Sons and that of Roy Ashley, who are both Battle Creek growers, and my own, I saw many of the new beauties and old favorites all over again.

## ROBIN ACTIVITIES

About two years ago Walter Welch conceived the idea of Dwarf Iris Round Robins and he now conducts, as I mentioned above, three of these with over thirty members. Last October Mrs. Waters suggested that some general Iris Round Robins might be a fine way to acquaint iris growers in our region with each other. Mrs. Paul R. Stephan, of Colum-

bus, Ohio, was appointed Mother Robin for Ohio, where she conducts four Robins. One of their interesting activities was a garden tour during iris season of the numerous splendid Columbus gardens and a visit to Don Waters at Elmore. This was so successful that more are planned for next year.

As Mother Robin for Michigan, I direct two general Iris Robins with about twenty-four members, and an over-size Hybridizers Robin of sixteen. Robins being friendly birds, this one has already flown over into Illinois to two or three congenial contributors.

I can heartily recommend Iris Robins as one of the finest possible means of friendly contacts between members of a region; many lasting friendships are thus formed. Two of my Robins held a first Get-Together meeting at the Union Club in East Lansing on August 14, where twenty-two were present for dinner and some interesting and informative discussion.

### PLANS—MEETINGS

Our regional meeting in May was the first such held in Region 6 in three years and our members seem eager for more activity—agreeing with Carl Schirmer who said in a recent BULLETIN, “We go to great lengths to get members; why not keep them busy and interested afterward?”

Therefore, our first fall meeting is tentatively planned for this fall. It has been suggested that many of our dealers and breeders who cannot get away during peak bloom season to attend the regional meetings might also enjoy a share in such festivities. They are equally members and do a great deal to spread the iris gospel. Such a meeting will serve to show what progress has been made in new irises and new seedlings which bloom this year, and to advance a better relationship between dealer and buyer.

In the spring of 1950 the active and successful Columbus Iris Society, headed by Mrs. Paul R. Stephan, will arrange the regional meeting at Columbus, Ohio. This club always does very well whatever it undertakes, and we all know it will be a fine meeting.

If these annual spring meetings prove successful, the 1951 meeting will probably be held in Michigan—time will tell.

At least, between the fine new seedlings growing and the great number of new irises planted in our region this summer, next season will be the best ever. In spite of wars and rumors of wars, floods, drouths and hurricanes, hope is always eternally present in the heart of a gardener—there's *always* another spring!



## A "Gold Country" Garden

LLOYD AUSTIN, (CALIF.)

*"Unusual" describes not only the plants that Mr. Austin grows, but also the location of his garden. According to Mrs. George G. Pollock, R. V. P. for Region 14, his place is "in the heart of the 'Mother Lode,' about two miles east of Placerville, the famous 'Hangtown' of the Vigilantes Days of the 'Roaring 40's.' It is situated on the Pony Express route that connected Sutter's Fort in Sacramento with Independence, Missouri. A return route can take the visitor to Coloma, site of the discovery of gold by John Marshall at the mill-race of Captain John Sutter."*

Visitors from the East are invariably surprised to learn how similar our climate is to theirs. They think of sunny California in terms of Southern California, the coast, or the vast interior valleys, rather than in terms of the towering mountain ranges. While our gardens are only about 50 miles from Sacramento, California's capital, they are at an elevation of nearly 3,000 feet. Last winter our ground remained frozen and snow-covered for nearly three months. We are well up in the timbered country, with majestic pines and other conifers surrounding the gardens, supplying what we like to think of as a perfect setting for the iris.

Our gardens were started chiefly because of my intense interest in hybridizing and the fact that I have been in plant breeding work practically all of my life. We have assembled here from all corners of the globe the very choicest species and varieties of many types of iris, so as to have them available as parents in exhaustive hybridizing trials involving many wide crosses and hitherto unexplored possibilities.

My greatest interest lies in that exotic group of iris from Palestine and the Near East that we term "The Arils." These species are so named because these alone of all the iris have seeds with prominent white arils, or collars. There is no other striking character that they have in common, but this characteristic is so pronounced that Geddes Douglas has recently suggested that they might popularly be termed "The White Collar Iris." This group is composed of two distinct, but closely related types, or sections of the genus, as set up by W. R. Dykes in his monumental work, *The Genus Iris*, which is our constant reference and guide. These types are the rare *Oncocyclus* of Palestine





Caldwell photo

Andromache, from the Van Tubergens, of Holland, is one of the "Oncogelia Hybrids" grown by Mr. Austin. The color, he says, is "silvery white and violet, with a soft lilac veil."

and their smaller but delightful cousins, the *Régelias* of Turkestan. I venture to hazard a guess that not one iris lover in a thousand has ever seen a single species of either type, or a single variety of their hybrids, known now as *Oncogelia Hybrids*, and formerly as *Regeliocyclus*.



At the present time our collection includes 20 distinct species of oncos. To the uninitiated this will seem like a paltry few, but to those who have been bitten by the onco bug and have been searching high and low for years for something beyond the semi-plentiful *Iris susiana*, it may seem like an unbelievable number. Let it not be inferred, however, that these have been acquired while lolling in the shade of our beautiful pines. Rather, let the reader dwell on the political disturbances in the Holy Land, from where we have had to secure these species by air at great expense. They have for years held top place in our list of desiderata. It is, of course, true that as yet we have only very meager quantities of most of these onco species, and a number of them have not as yet bloomed for us. But the collection is most interesting and highly useful in our hybridization work. You may be sure that every anther of onco pollen is utilized to the fullest.

Most prized of all, perhaps, are a few rhizomes of that pink beauty which Dykes illustrates in color and says is the most beautiful of all iris, namely, *Iris lortetii*. Held in almost as high esteem are our limited stocks of *I. nazarena* and *I. samariae*. The former is a magnificent, very large-flowered species with standards of cream, embossed with striplings and veins of maroon and wine-red, and having falls of white with blue veins and dots of purple and crimson. *Iris samariae* is much like *I. lortetii* but slightly more lavender, and with even larger flowers. Available in slightly greater quantities are such species as *I. barnumae*, *I. haynei*, *I. nigricans* and *I. bismarkiana*. Most plentiful of all, but still hardly abundant, are the interesting and much-sought species *I. susiana* and *I. atropurpurea*. The latter has standards of blackish red and falls unbelievably black, tinged crimson. In the center of each fall is a large signal patch of pure *velvety black*, the blackest we have ever seen in any flower.

Among the fascinating Regelias we have 14 species and varieties, the best known of which are *Iris hoogiana* in clear blue, *I. korolkowi* in creamy pink and *I. stolonifera* in a delightful blend of rose and buff. Even more interesting in some respects than the species themselves—and apparently generally better seed-setters—are their various varieties, which only just recently have become available. *Hoogiana* has the varieties *purpurea* and *Bronze Beauty*; *korolkowi* has *concolor* and *violaceae*; and *stolonifera* has *leichtlini* and *Vaga*. Most appealing of all the Regelias to us, because of their graceful character and their unusual beards, are three hybrids resulting from the cross of *korolkowi* X *stolonifera*, called *Orestes*, *Lucia* and *Vulcanus*. The first has an exotic looking and very pleasing brown beard, while the other two have beards in deepest blue.

In the exciting class of *Oncogelia* Hybrids our garden contains

30 distinct varieties, the most of which originated in Holland from crosses of imported stock. Space will not permit an enumeration or description of these, and it will suffice to say that among the most striking and lovely are Luna and Asporina.

The remainder of the garden, while occupying far more space than that part which has been described, must be passed over with the briefest mention. Our collection of Onco-Bearded Hybrids, a type on which I am, perhaps, specializing more than on any other, now contains slightly over 100 varieties. There seem to be only a few known Regelia-Bearded Hybrids, and we have only four named kinds. As for the rest, we have quite good assortments of dwarfs, intermediates, border and table iris among the bearded types; Siberians, Japanese, spurias, stylosas and California natives among the beardless; and crested, bulbous and tuberous iris among what we call the "Oddities."

While no mention has been made of tall bearded iris, we have these to the extent of somewhat over 300 varieties, including, of course, the majority of the recent award and Symposium winners. In fact, we have added so many of the newer ones during the last two years that we have had to drop from our collection nearly 100 of the older sorts.

Iris lovers in the West felt greatly honored this year to have the national meeting held here on the Coast. Many who went to Portland from the East and South traveled the southern route and saw some of the California gardens. Keep in mind, whenever occasion brings you to this part of the country, that our latch string is always out.

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### *A California Artist Creates . . .*

## **Unusual Iris Color**

ROY W. FIELDING, (CALIF.)

Much time and much effort has been expended in Southern California with the intent of getting bright and varied colors into iris of mesopotamian derivation. Variegata colors and amoena contrasts have eluded us: we have many lovely whites, yellows, light blues, creams and other cool, delicate shades, but no iris with both mesopotamian habit of growth and the brilliance of City of Lincoln or Wabash.

Iris in which variegata blood is dominant must have a winter freezes. Los Angeles County and the Southern California costal counties



cannot guarantee that treatment. An Easterner or Midwesterner will also miss his lilacs, his peonies, lilies-of-the-valley and other favorites.

Tom Craig, Southern California's current Iris Superman, has been working on this color problem, and these few paragraphs are based principally on visits to his garden and conversations with him at various times. Being an artist of renown, he faces color problems in a matter of fact sort of way. He is also a botanist of wide experience and a practiced collector of wild plants and seeds in many parts of this and other countries.

As with all other iris breeders in this region, the influence of Clarence White and the beauty of his oncobreds has had a marked effect. Tom's great urge, therefore, has been to combine vivid color, exotic form of bloom *mesopotamica* growth habit with *trojana* branching, and absolute hardiness all into a single plant. His starting point for such a brave program was Ib-Mac, a hybrid of *iberica* X *Macrantha*. *Iberica* is a bicolored yellow onco with no branching, now probably lost. *Macrantha* is a blue bicolor from Asia Minor, not too tall, but with adequate branching. The hybrid Ib-Mac is a mediocre, near dwarf, red-purple with a dark signal patch, poorly branched, but definitely onco in type and character. Concealed in the mediocre exterior of Ib-Mac and its derivatives lie most desirable factors for pattern and color, plus hardiness, fine growth habit and fine plant proportions.

In the AIS BULLETIN 95, November, 1944, Sydney Mitchell discusses Lady Mohr, and makes the comment that he does not believe that Ib-Mac, an ancestor of Lady Mohr, can be found again. There is an iris in circulation in the Midwest listed as Ib-Mac which is incorrectly labeled. That particular iris is *regelia* in form and bears markings suggestive of *korolkowi*. Its value as a parent is unknown.

In the 1920's, Dr. S. S. Berry of Redlands was one of California's leading iris hybridists, probably ranking with William Mohr in the early utilization of *Iris mesopotamica*. For many years now, the lure of the pink daffodil has deflected Dr. Berry's attention from iris. It was in his garden that Tom Craig found the true Ib-Mac. Dr. Berry's garden contains much buried treasure for iris species enthusiasts.

In handling iris that are 50% onco, the question always arises as to which parent contributed the growth habit. The growth habits of Ib-Mac come from its onco parent with the consequence that it must be sun-baked every summer in order to exist. Frank Reinelt, of *delphinium* fame, used Ib-Mac pollen on iris William Mohr, producing *Capitola*. *Capitola* is easier to work with than Ib-Mac, but its pollen is, unfortunately, less potent. It can be grown where it is not possible to grow its parent, and has been used very widely by Tom Craig.

These two iris have a tremendous affinity for the white mesopotamicas, such as Purissima and Snow Flurry. From the first pod of this program to ripen, (Purissima X Ib-Mac) sixteen seedlings bloomed—three of them of such excellent quality that they were retained for possible introduction. Silver Charm, a silvery light blue, is already high in popular favorite, doing as well in the Midwest as here in California.

From this group of four parents, ten thousand seedlings were grown; many bloomed in 1947 and 1948 with some slow ones still to be heard from. Despite the small flower, short stalk and poor branching of Capitola, its seedlings are nearly all bearers of large flowers on well branched stalks.

Tom has drawn the following conclusions and adapted his policies to fit:

(a) At this stage, a strong pollen parent is preferable to a strong pod parent in outbreeding oncocyclis. This has eliminated his use of William Mohr in favor of Capitola, which he swears by. It is the single key parent. Of the many other oncobred pollen parents in use, the most valued are Ib-Mac, Joppa Parrot and Jumna; but they are not easily grown, even in California.

(b) Pollen of Ib-Mac is fertile on many eupogons when no other oncobred pollen seems to be. The seeds of these crosses are frequently hard to germinate and then the seedlings develop slowly.

(c) Capitola is less promiscuous in its affinities, but germination is good after the seed has been obtained. It is particularly successful with the big whites. Purissima X Capitola produced a startling range of cool colors, all the way from near white to near black.

Tom has had the use of many of Sydney Mitchell's plicata seedlings, some of which are of patterns and colors unsuspected a few years ago. Typical of this new pattern and color is Mitchell's Belle Brunette, introduced this year; or his exquisitely dainty Lovelace of 1948. Onco hybrid pollen was spread over these and thousands of Craig seedlings derived from them with most interesting results. In many the normal plicata pattern was lost; there were bright splashes of color, some irregular, some forming strange patterns, some with striking color contrasts—unfortunately, too often at the expense of such form as judges look for. Hence, all problems are not yet solved.

Mitchell's Mariposa Mia, a frilly white, pollinated by Capitola, produced seedlings of a strange plicata type. The plicata pattern, was, of course, to be expected, as three out of Mariposa Mia's four grandparents were plicatas, and Capitola has Parisiana in its ancestry. The unexpectedness of the markings, far from the normal pattern, would give any hybridizer a unique thrill.



Tom says, "Capitola for form, Ib-Mac for color." As suggested above, there will be no more work done with the older Mohr seedlings or derivatives, other than Capitola. Elmoehr X Hall pinks produced nothing worthy of note. One of the seedlings was white with narrow falls, suggestive of old Albicans. Lady Mohr X Hall pinks produced only one seedling of note—something like Lady Mohr with a pink tone.

When Tom makes an experimental cross such as just mentioned, he does not rely on the data obtained from one seed pod. He will raise hundreds of seedlings of a cross to determine its full range of possibilities. If worth while, he will repeat the cross and bloom thousands of its seedlings.

For those interested in "green"blooms, Clarence White's oncobred Joppa Parrot as pollen parent on white mesopotamicas has given some exciting color breaks in the olive shades—all the way from chartreuse-yellow to dark olive-green veined with red.

Acropolis is a handsome dark blue-purple bicolor of Dr. Berry's far from new—just badly neglected when new for lack of promotion. Tom used that as a pod parent to produce many fine seedlings. With pollen from an unnamed oncobred of Clarence White's, Acropolis gave him a superb lavender, now introduced as Blue Ox. There is no trace of onco in the pattern. It has leathery texture, a not uncommon quality found in many iris having a trace of onco in their ancestry. It is one of his fine seed parents for the next generation of oncobreds; it has no pollen.

Of the tangerine bearded iris, the three visitors making the best impressison are (1) Fantasy, (2) Cherie and (3) Pink Formal. Radiation did not bloom, and Cherie was somewhat difficult. Pink Formal is bigger, taller, broader, and has an extreme potency of color with good substance. Its form, however, is not uniform, and its standards have been known to pinch. Tom describes its color as "shocking," in an electric sense.

All the publicized pinks have been used in Tom's breeding program, and some of the less familiar ones, such as Isabellina. The Hall pinks, though of highest quality, have flowered on uniformly short stalks; but mating them, both ways, with his pinks from Mount Washington has resulted in some very desirable pinks five feet tall. Tom says, "Every good pink of mine has some Mount Washington in it." I saw his Peach Parfait two years ago; it is very graceful and the name describes the color most accurately.

Tom's whole operation has been a practical exploration for color, form and branching; also an investigation into the inheritable tendencies of iris. It has been my privilege to observe much of this work in its

unfolding. There is no tabu on visitors, but the garden is not for display, nor is it easy of access—twelve hundred feet or so above the surrounding city with no public transportation facilities. It is half a mile or so from his home, also on the mountain top. The garden is securely fenced, with locked gates. There are certain days on which Tom holds art classes in town, so that visitors should make an appointment prior to climbing the mountain.

Throughout April and May that garden holds all the thrills that an iris fan could wish for. At Christmas there is usually a big display by China Maid. Tom is also watching for the remontants which are becoming very numerous. An iris of one type or another is in bloom there nearly every day in the year.

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### TANGENTS OR TOLERANCE?

During the ten years that I have served the AIS as an accredited judge, I have observed the tendency of judges, including myself, to follow tangents periodically. I believe it to be a bad practice.

Ten years ago we went overboard for size. Unless an iris had immense size it was apt to be overlooked. Since then we have appreciated the advantages of the medium sized flowers, finding that they retain their form better through adverse conditions.

Then came the almost utter condemnation of reticulation on the haft. While smoothness is always desirable, we find that fine reticulation which blends nicely with the color of the flower is not objectionable and is in some instances an asset.

Then came the insistence on very tall stems. The tall ones are greatly to be desired, but we now realize that there are many places where the shorter ones are more useful.

Then there is the obsession for very wide branching. Some time ago Clarence White and Stillman Berry called my attention to the advantages of good, well spaced, pallida type shorter branching in the garden value of an iris, and I have come to appreciate this type. It

may be true that the wide branched stalk is fine in an iris show, but it often proves a disappointment in a well established clump in the garden, having many of its flowers obscured by the foliage, and the flowers on the long branches bunching up with the flowers on the other stems in the clump. Isn't a garden the logical and ideal setting in which to judge an iris?

Again there is the question of ideal form. I still have a great preference for wide round petals with the falls balancing with the standards, but I feel we have perhaps overdone the insistence in extremely wide hafts. I have seen flowers with the hafts so wide that the petals lose graceful rounding as the haft is almost or quite as wide as any part of the petal. Now if the haft were a little narrower it would permit the petal to widen out about the middle adding grace to its form.

Many beautiful irises do not have all of the ideal requirements so I think it behooves us to be tolerant and enjoy the beauty of the many lovely ones without being over-critical. Without some of the characteristics of a perfect iris, there are yet some varieties which possess the precious element of appeal which should not be overlooked.

—*Carl C. Taylor, San Bernardino, Calif.*



# Arrangement Contest Winners

Winners in the BULLETIN's 1949 Arrangement Contest are listed below. Entries were submitted in the form of photographs of iris arrangements in four different classes, in accordance with a schedule announced in the April issue.

The editors are grateful to all contestants and especially to Mrs. Esther Grayson Rockwell, who was kind enough to judge the pictures. As in the past, the arranging was in most cases better than the photography, and for that reason reproductions of other winners are not given.

Prizes—choice and valuable iris rhizomes, all donated by Geddes Douglas—have been mailed to the following winners:

## Class 1—ARRANGEMENTS FEATURING BEARDED IRIS

First Prize (Spanish Peaks)—Mrs. Catherine S. Hemingway, 121 East Union Ave., Bound Brook, N. J.

Second (Rocket)—E. L. Hudson, 470 Greenfield Ave., Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Third (Mary Vernon)—Patti Shaffer, 4021 Lenox Drive, Dayton 9, Ohio

Fourth (Sharkskin)—Mrs. W. H. Barton, 403 Oxford Rd., East Lansing, Mich.

## Class 2—ARRANGEMENTS FEATURING SIBERIAN OR JAPANESE IRIS

First Prize (Eric the Red)—E. L. Hudson, 470 Greenfield Ave., Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Second (Tycoon)—Louis McDonald, 516 Victoria Ave., Lynchburg, Va.

Third (Cool Spring)—Mrs. W. H. Barton, 403 Oxford Rd., East Lansing, Mich.

Fourth (Gatineau)—Mrs. C. W. Schmalstig, 4021 Lenox Drive, Dayton 9, Ohio

## Class 3—ARRANGEMENTS FEATURING AMERICAN NATIVE IRIS

First Prize (Caddo)—Louis McDonald, 516 Victoria Ave., Lynchburg, Va.

### FIRST PRIZE IN CLASS 1



Of this arrangement by Mrs. Catherine S. Hemingway, Bound Brook, N. J., Mrs. Rockwell wrote: "This beautiful plant material is well complemented by the heavy modern bowl which matches the iris in sturdiness, texture and form. Foliage near the top to relieve the straight bare stem of the bud might have been an improvement. The arrangement tends toward being too "chunky" but is clean cut and restful to the eye."





Intermediate iris Doxa—pale olive-buff color with elusive violet iridescence on the falls—used with its own buds and foliage in a dull white pottery bowl in front of an oyster-white wall.





FIRST PRIZE, CLASS IV, by E. L. Hodson, Glen Ellyn, Ill.

"Crest of the Wave" is Mr. Hodson's name for his arrangement of Dutch iris White Excelsior with Pride of Rochester deutzia in a soft white glazed pottery container. Mrs. Rockwell's comments: "Here I like the use of small flowers with iris, probably because the iris are small. The stems show and their erect habit fits the erect, ascending spirit of the arrangement, which is graceful and pleasing."

Second (New Orleans)—Mrs. Adam Jones, Route 1, Box 143, Topanga, Calif.

Third (Kraemer Yellow)—Mrs. William E. Trimble, 203 N. Avenue K. Crowley, La.

Fourth (Abbeville Red)—Mrs. H. S. Bumpass, Ashland, Va.

#### Class 4—ARRANGEMENTS FEATURING BULBOUS, SPURIA OR CRESTED IRIS

First Prize (Collection of 4 Spurias)—E. L. Hodson, 470 Greenfield Ave., Glen Ellyn, Ill.

Second (Collection of 3 Spurias)—Louis McDonald, 516 Victoria Ave., Lynchburg, Va.

Third (Collection of 2 Spurias)—Mrs. C. W. Schmalstig, 4021 Lenox Drive, Dayton 9, Ohio.

Fourth (Spuria Sunny Day)—Mrs. Grover A. Meaders, 3226 Seminole Ave., Macon, Ga.

# Significant Variants in Louisiana Irises

IRA S. NELSON, (LA.)

As long ago as 1931 Small\* pointed out the urgency of salvaging "species, varieties and color forms" of native Louisiana irises from the path of encroaching civilization. If these wild types are to be the foundation stock for garden and cut flowers, we have short time left in which to assemble our breeding stock. Civilization has already completely destroyed many large iris populations that Small described two decades ago.

The immediate problem of assembling breeding stock is complicated by the tremendous quantity of varieties to be found in the wild. Small and Alexander collected over 8,000 plants having some 200 distinguishable forms. Of these, nearly 100 forms were given specific names. The writer has collected an estimated 3,000 variants, most of which have shown little promise as breeding stock.

For the sake of simplification, the classification used by Viosca\*\* will be used in this paper. The final speciation cannot be arrived at until more is known of the genetics of this group of plants.

The need for garden irises in the United States is particularly critical in the Deep South. It is here that the tall bearded irises fail to do well, if at all. This region is a natural for the native Louisiana types. With this in mind, no particular effort has been made to select variants for the colder regions farther north. It is known however, that they can be produced on a commercial scale as far north as Lowell, Massachusetts.

*Iris fulva* Ker., generally conceded to be a valid species, is exceedingly variable. Normally it is terra-cotta in color but it may be yellow, orange or almost red. Isolated clones are known to bloom two weeks earlier than the other Louisiana irises. *Fulva* hybrids often exhibit earliness of bloom date. *I. fulva* has a giant counterpart in the so called Abbeville irises\*\*\*. This group may briefly be described as a robust form of *fulva*. The width of petal and sepal is proportionately greater in the Abbeville irises. Additionally the entire plant including the flower is 50 to 100 per cent larger than the usual forms of *fulva*. The Abbeville group has produced clones of almost true red flowers as well as yellow,

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\*Small, J. K., Vanishing Irises. *Journ. of the N. Y. Bot. Garden* 32: 277-288

\*\*Viosca, Percy, The Irises of Southeastern La., *BULL. AM. IRIS SOC.* 57:3-56, April 1935

\*\*\*Nelson, I. S., Abbeville's Giant Irises, *BULL. AM. IRIS SOC.* 102: 11-16, July 1948



orange, peach-pink and brown. The substance of the floral parts is often exceptionally leathery. The Abbeville irises have already proved to be good foundation stock for hybridizing.

The *foliosa* group is the dwarf of the Louisiana irises. This group is usually blue in color but may be white. They are pasture or upland irises. Although quite variable, the substance of the floral parts is uniformly good. Branching of the stem is common among this group. Lateness of bloom date is characteristic of the *foliosas*.

The *giganticaerulea* group is the giant counterpart of the *foliosa* group. These plants may have flower stalks as tall as seven feet. The flowers are usually blue but may be white, cream-colored or grey. *Giganticaerulea* blossoms are usually large. The *fulva*, *foliosa* and *giganticaerulea* group are all cross fertile and produce fertile hybrids.

The *virginica* group is cross fertile among the species within its own group. It has not been successfully crossed with the aforementioned three groups. The foliage of this group is characterized by a midrib not found in the other three groups. The *virginicas* are usually a pastel color and may range from white to pink to blue to violet.

A recent discovery in the vicinity of Lake Charles, Louisiana, gives this group a giant counterpart which is comparable to the Abbeville irises in the *fulva* group.

Individual variants found within these four groups or their hybrids often greatly exceed the group type in one or more desirable qualities. Those listed here are but a few of the thousands of variants to be found.

Color variants are exceedingly common. The selection of individual clones for use as breeding stock is complicated by the hybrid nature of some colors. Purples and violets can be obtained at will by crossing the blue with the red or terra-cotta sorts. Many colors of hybrid origin are not so readily obtained since they are not of simple hybrid origin. It, therefore, seems advisable to collect these unusual colors even though we have no assurance that they can be transmitted to their progeny. They may, however, be capable of producing other unusual and desirable colors.

Bazetti (Small) is a rather unusual shade of dark copper-red. Unlike the terra-cotta *fulva*, when crossed with yellow *fulva* it produces a high percentage of yellow-flowered seedlings that have a blush over cast on the upper surface of the petals and sepals. The variety Edith Dupre\* was thus originated.

The cleanest whites and blues are to be found in the *foliosa* group. Most whites show yellow pigment in the bud stage and all blues have

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\* All named varieties mentioned are registered with the American Iris Society.

a trace of violet in them which is most evident under artificial light.

Yellow color is normally found in the fulva and Abbeville types. It seems to be associated with the drooping shape of this group. Kraemer Yellow, however, has all other characteristics of the *giganticaerulea* group except color. It has been used to produce other yellows of form unlike fulva.

Old Spice is the only brown-colored form known to the writer. It is of Abbeville origin and has not as yet been tried as a parent plant.

New Orleans, although having the form of *giganticaerulea*, is a very clear pink. Pink color is rare in the genus *Iris*. Certainly New Orleans, a natural hybrid, has a better pink color than anything produced in the tall bearded group after years of hybridizing.

The Abbeville group has yielded the truest reds. Bayou Vermilion is particularly free from the bronzy cast normally found in the shades of red. Like other good reds, it has a hint of blue in the style arms.

Bicolors, although common among the bearded irises are very rare among the native Louisiana types. Contrast has sepals of dark orchid color and petals of pale orchid color. It and one other are all that are known to have been collected from the wild. Numerous clones have been collected with bicolor tendencies of lesser degree. Contrast has been successfully used as a parent to produce other bicolors.

Tricolors are within the realm of possibility. Several clones are known which produce flowers having style arms of contrasting color to the other floral parts. Thus, it is possible that these crossed with bicolors may produce sepals one color, petals another and style arms a third.

The signal patch or crest markings are as varied as flower colors. These markings add much to the appearance of flowers. Many of the Abbeville group have a long single yellow or gold crest line on the sepals. Starry Night has a triangular crest while Sunburst has a huge radial crest. Lockett's Luck has a large diamond-shaped crest of gold outlined with maroon. Many clones are void of any crest. These varieties are mentioned because they are the best representatives of their respective crest types.

Crests are normally found on the sepals only. Occasionally the terminal flower will have crests on both sepals and petals. The writer collected an otherwise normal *giganticaerulea* that produces all of its flowers with crests on both petals and sepals. This unusual marking gives the optical illusion of a lily-shaped iris.

A high percentage of Louisiana irises produce but six blooms from three flower positions on the bloom stalk. Four or five flower positions, each producing two blooms, are occasionally found. In such instances the bottom one or two positions may be branched. In 1947 the writer collected a blue near Esther, Louisiana, that produced 14 flowers from



seven flower positions. The bottom four positions were on branches ranging from 4 to 14 inches in length.

Old Coral is outstanding in respect to width of petals. Royal Highness, a controlled cross, also has wide floral parts and its petals are almost as large as its sepals.

Substance varies greatly among the countless varieties. As a group the foliosa-Abbeville natural hybrids not only excel in substance but are capable of transmitting it to many of their progeny.

The luster or sheen of blossoms often fades in the sun. An unregistered Abbeville red, held by the writer under the number B-4-12, is capable of retaining its luster for three days in full sun. It has transmitted this quality to a portion of its F 1 and F 2 generations.

While we may develop garden and cut flowers suitable to our needs from typical species types, we will pass an opportunity which will probably never return if we fail to collect and perpetuate clonal variants exhibiting characteristics superior to or different from typical species or natural hybrids.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Author Nelson is Professor of Horticulture at Southwestern Louisiana Institute, Lafayette, La. He also serves as Region 10 Vice-President for the AIS.

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## Bayou Sunset Wins Debaillon Award

Polling the majority vote of accredited judges who participated in choosing the best Louisiana iris of the year, W. B. MacMillan's variety Bayou Sunset has been named as winner of the Mary Swords Debaillon Award for 1949. A rosy hued flower with a golden "sunset" glow from the center, it was registered in 1945 and has become a favorite of the fanciers who grow Louisiana irises.

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HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY AFFILIATION—*Is the American Iris Society affiliated with the American Horticultural Society so that our members may join that organization at a reduced rate?*— T. J., Texas.

Yes; regular dues in the American Horticultural Society are \$5.00 per year, but if you are an AIS member you may

so advise the American Horticultural Society and join it for \$3.50 yearly dues. You will receive the National Horticultural Magazine, a well illustrated quarterly carrying authoritative articles on a variety of subjects interesting to people who like plants and gardens. The address is 821 Washington Loan and Trust Bldg., Washington 4, D. C.

# New Dutch Irises

SYDNEY B. MITCHELL, (CALIF.)

Only last spring a young Hollander, Henry J. de Goede, dropped in to talk about iris breeding, specifically breeding Dutch irises. He told me that he was with John Onderwater at Mount Vernon, Washington, and that they were wholesale growers, specializing in certain new Dutch varieties, many of them raised by his father and his uncle. I was much interested because I know that at certain recent English exhibitions some new Dutch irises had pretty nearly stolen the show. A comparison of names showed that these were the same and were now being grown here and would soon be available through retail dealers. This was real iris news, for the Dutch irises are easy garden flowers on the Pacific coast and in many other places and even where they are not long lived they are often worth growing because even a single season's bloom outdoors would be rewarding. In addition many amateurs with green-houses might like to try forcing them for early bloom at a time when flowers are scarce.

In June, when their growing fields were in flower, Mr. de Goede sent me by express a box containing three spikes of each of about fifteen varieties in bud but showing color. I put them in deep water at once, and within two hours the first set of flowers were all out and being admired for their size and in many cases for their quite new or intensified colors. As there are always two flowers in each head we had a nice show for a week and I made the following notes. Perhaps I ought to say that I have been growing a fair collection of standard varieties for some years so I have a basis for comparison. Soon I hope to be growing these varieties in my own garden. My amateur's interest in them is that Dutch iris give variety and a lot of good color in the garden at little cost. On our dry hillside we just let them ripen off in summer and come up again with the rains of autumn. Occasionally we lose some from mosaic, though the early and wonderful Wedgewood seems to be practically immune here and persists better than any other variety.

Of the new whites Jeanne d'Arc and White Pearl stood out: I preferred the former as I saw it, mainly because of its size. Both are better than any I have previously had in my garden. The yellows must be divided into the pale varieties and those of deep orange-yellow. Lemon Queen was a distinct new color to me and suggested Carl Milliken's fine spuria Wadi Zem Zem, than which I can give no higher praise. Some of the deep yellows are a great advance in size and depth of



color over what I had previously seen. Of those sent me, Belle Jaune and Alaska are tops. very similar but the former the larger flower. Princess Beatrice, slightly paler but with an almost red flush on the falls, also seemed very desirable.

There were two varieties with white standards and rich yellow falls. Princess Irene, a lovely thing, was of this type and is now available. Eventually Gold and Silver, of similar coloring, will be offered, and this is even larger and finer, perhaps the most striking of the new things.

The greatest advance in the blues was an enormous flower, Blue Champion, a brilliant and popular color. I presume it is a midseason variety and will be grown in succession to the first early Wedgewood. Blue Pearl is as deep a violet-blue as I have seen. By comparison with National Velvet it seemed pretty close in color, but I would want to grow both under the same conditions to be sure. National Velvet was raised by Carl Salbach and introduced last year by the Oregon Bulb Farms; it is, as far as I know, the first Dutch iris to be bred from pollen of *Iris fontanesii*.

King Mauve and Mauve Queen represent the nearest approaches to orchid color in Dutch irises, the former a deeper and the latter a lighter shade. Both are fine big flowers and taste will determine your preference. Mine was for the paler Mauve Queen.

Since I grew the old Spanish irises in quantity in my first California garden at Stanford University I have missed the old bronze variety Thunderbolt. These smoky colors have been slow in getting into the Dutch strain, perhaps because they lack the clarity of the blues and yellows and are hardly likely to become great forcing flowers. But if you want something different here it is and the development of these duller colors in the newer spurias raised by Eric Nies has accustomed us to greater subtlety and restraint. They will never give brilliance in the garden, but if a mere man may make a guess on flower arrangements they will be much sought after by addicts of this esoteric art. Among the blends sent me were several in which blue predominated but the orange signal patch on the falls was very striking. Harmony, with blue standards and olive-yellow falls almost covered by orange, was one of these. Others in this group were Bronze Queen, a larger flower with dark blue standards, olive-green falls and orange signal patch, a strange, fascinating combination. Arthur Briet, purple-blue standards, bronzed blue falls, lit up by a huge orange signal, was quite astonishing, but Copper King, dark blue and bronze with a golden signal, seemed a bit somber to me.

In any selection for the garden my experience is that blues, yellows and whites should predominate in that order and the bronzes be kept to a much smaller proportion of the planting.

# Our Members Write . . .



## ORE-GROANS

Please, let us have more articles on the older, less expensive iris—something on the order of the “Older Iris I Would Buy Again” of several years ago, 1943, I believe. The comment on the newer varieties is interesting, too, but since you have made such an effort to bring more of us rank amateurs into the Society, comment on the good older varieties would be more to the point, since I’ll wager three-fourths of us simply can’t and won’t pay the prices asked for the very newest iris!

Please continue the department “Questions and Answers”—don’t let it be crowded out by anything else. It’s about the most instructive feature in the BULLETIN, to my way of thinking. I’d very much like to see more suggestions for the control of the botrytis (winter rot) since it has been my chief pest. In spite of moving my entire iris garden and treating with Semesan it still continues.

In spite of all the above, I enjoy the BULLETINS very much and read them thoroughly, although I hesitated about sending in dues for another year since there’s so very little information or comment on the varieties that I can afford to grow. No doubt, in ten years from now my garden will be right up to date with the 1949 BULLETINS!

—*Adria H. White, Wasco, Ore.*

While comments on older varieties are of great value to the average home owner who wants a good colorful iris to be used as a garden perennial, comments on new and expensive varieties are not entirely wasted. Many iris-

arians belong to either a garden club or a local iris club. Such organizations can purchase collections of new varieties for eventual distribution to its members. In this way the cost per variety is brought within reason of the most modest pocket book.

On our desk is the catalog of one of the leading commercial dealers. In it is listed a so-called “Masterpiece Collection” from which your editor has selected the following ten varieties priced at \$45.00: Lady Mohr, Cascade Splendor, Mt. Hermon, Bryce Canyon, Three Cheers, Pink Cameo, Desert Song, Distance, Dreamcastle and Lights On. Such a selection is almost complete in its color spread, and though composed of almost new novelties actually embraces ten iris which have been well tested in many regions as evidenced in the varietal comments which have appeared from time to time in the BULLETIN.

Assuming that the garden club in question has a membership of 20 to 25 members, the purchase of such a collection would mean an average expenditure of about \$2.00 per member. In one year’s time—with good culture and a bit of good luck—the ten iris may be expected to produce from 45 to 50 rhizomes, or two per member. This means that iris such as Pink Cameo, Dream Castle and the rest may be had at one dollar or less per plant. Off-hand, it looks like a bargain—especially as further increase in succeeding years will enable the co-operative purchasers to share all of the choice varieties without additional expense.—Ed.



# *The Iris and I - - 1949*

MRS. GEORGE C. STEEDMAN, (VA.)

On just such a cold, windy and rainy day as we had last year in Nashville, Mrs. C. A. Herbert and I arrived in Spartanburg, S. C., in early May to see Mrs. Louise Blake's renowned garden. To our delight upon entering the hotel dining room that morning we found Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Palmer of Arlington, Va., who had also come to visit the famous Rainbow Trail, to see new color breaks and to renew acquaintance with older varieties. Dr. Palmer is our Region 4 Vice-President.

We had all expected the traditional sunny skies of South Carolina and had come totally unprepared for what we found. So we had all gone to the department store and been fitted out with umbrellas, galoshes and raincoats. Mr. Gabriel Cannon, another iris fan of Spartanburg, came for us in a car and kindly took us to see his garden and then on to Mrs. Blake's. Mr. Cannon has a choice collection of irises on a smaller scale but all growing quite well in the good loamy soil that Spartanburg is blessed with. He told me that Blue Delight, a great favorite of mine, each year has the finest stalk of any in his garden. That is one iris that is rightly named.

At Three Oaks—the Blake home—after an exchange of greetings and news on irises and iris personalities and a cup of coffee in front of a roaring fire with our charming hostess, I went on out in the garden in the pouring rain. Other visitors had already established a routine—you'd stay in the garden till you could stand the chill no longer, then run inside, thaw out before the fire, exchange impressions of this and that new iris, and then return to the garden with rain-soaked notebook.

In the Blue Rhythm row where all the best known blues were fighting it out for the most applause, I felt that it should have been named Lavender Rhythm that morning. The leaden skies had changed the so called blues to lavender, and the deeper the color the more purple they were looking. The bluest of all were Sylvia Murray, Distance and Ellen. All these have a decided gray cast. Ellen was the bluest iris in the garden. It is a very pale tint of blue and that perhaps accounts for the fact that it still seemed blue under the gray sky. Blue Rhythm, Lake George, Chicory Blue and Blue Zenith were as lavender as they could be, but they made up for it in being otherwise very fine irises in fine clumps.

No one but Helen McGregor could possibly have enjoyed the weather and she was certainly lording it over the others. However there were

a dozen or more that seemed to be enjoying the swim. Golden Eagle, Starshine, Buffawn and Icy Blue were four that showed no rain damage.

There is something more to this thing called substance than thickness. Buffawn is nobody's pretty child, in shape particularly, and the thickness of the petals is not unusual; yet rain, heat, wind or cold have no effect on the blooms, here in the East at least. But many a famous iris was finding the weather there that day no beauty treatment.

### MRS. BLAKE MAKES CHANGES

Those who have visited Mrs. Blake's garden in past years will be interested to know that it is prettier now than ever before. She has made a lot of changes. New beds down the garden walk to the summer-house mean more irises to see. More fine roses are blooming at the same time. The pillar roses suggest a sort of curtain or background for the irises—something like piano accompaniment to a song. She has replaced the lovely cream irises around the bird bath with Flora Zenor. The creams now have a bed of their own and seem to be shown off to better advantage. Flora Zenor now finds her legginess a positive asset for clumping purposes. She seems in a mass planting as pink as any of the new pinks and so does Pink Ruffles. Below the Mohr and Mohr bed is a whole row of Alice Webb. All were one-year plants and all were blooming. The uniformity of the stalks was amazing. Some had just one bloom, others had two or more, but all were characterized by good branching. I wished that I could have one of my judging classes in Horticulture there for a splendid lesson in judging irises on the bench. (May I change the subject a minute to say I wish sometime we could have a sort of symposium in the BULLETIN on judging irises on the bench at the garden club flower shows. I feel that the scale needs revising. The amount for "Condition" is too little and for "Color" too much.)

Drifts of yellows, pinks and blues on the terrace impressed all those who are just garden fans instead of iris fans.

The frost effect was quite apparent here and there in the garden but Mrs. Blake has a marvelous philosophy. Instead of bewailing the hard luck she said, "Well there are always flowers—perhaps not so many. But we can enjoy to the hilt those we have. I never did believe in bemoaning the injuries the weather brings us."

I noticed a lot of new comers among the yellows this year. Spartan, named for Mrs. Blake, was evidently an Ola Kala seedling. Damascus was just as brilliant in coloring as Rocket. I am not good at seeing the fine points of difference between two very-alike irises. I know of



course there must be a difference, else one of them would not have been introduced (Hm-m.—Ed.). For the life of me I could not find the difference in Spartan and Ola Kala. The new yellow of the most intense chroma I ever saw in a yellow is a Whiting seedling numbered 4618. It is an orange-yellow that can look those California poppies in the face and hold its own when it comes to color. Greig Lapham is a smooth-finished iris, medium sized and with stalks on the short side. There is a decided velvety quality to the falls. The number of yellows is getting bewildering. It would do the heart of Mr. Dykes good if he could see what has been accomplished since his first big yellow flashed across the sky of a delighted iris world only twenty-four years ago.

Each year (I think for fun) Mrs. Blake puts a middle-aged iris in the debutant bed with all the very new ones. All the irises take on a glamour in that bed. I believe the secret is that the edging is a neutral gray nepeta planting that makes the irises look more brilliant. Year before last when I was there I saw the most beautiful yellow iris on a one-year plant 'way in the back of the debutant bed. I could not see the marker and just had to climb over all the irises in front to see what new yellow comet was flashing across the sky for AIS fans now. I had just turned around from the Kenneth Smith niche where I had been looking at a clump of Yellow Jewel and was thinking of how much improvement had been made since it first showed up that May morning in 1940. Now here was a new yellow far superior to it—just what could be expected after eight years. I finally got over to the back row and read the marker. It was Yellow Jewel! This year I had a similar experience. There was a new yellow elbowing the others out of the way. It had a familiar look but I could not remember what iris it looked like. I went over and found it was just Berkeley Gold, looking as young and handsome as the real debutants. I noticed that Cloth of Gold had to be staked this year.

### NEW WHITES

There were several new ones among the whites—new to me, at least. Magnolia is very well named—just the same off-white that a magnolia blossom is and with the same texture; it was medium sized but very floriferous. Canadaway was a rather nice ruffled iris and very good. White Russia was growing a very large clump but had only two bloom stalks. Lady Boscawen, though not as well known as her famous sister for substance, would in spite of this, get the nod for beauty of bloom over Helen McGregor, though both are very pretty. But Snow Carnival is still a grand performer that you can count on year after

year. A wish I have always had is one day to have enough Snow Carnival to make a large church arrangement of it, using white delphinium for the bones of the arrangement. Another ambition is to make one out of the Lady Bankshire roses that grow on Mrs. Blake's terrace, with Ola Kala as the focal point. The blooms on most of the irises these days are too large for any but church arrangements.

For those of you who are keen on flower arrangements there are three darling little irises that are fine. One I always look for when I go to Mrs. Blake's because I never see it anywhere else. It is called Chelsea and is a small carbon copy of White Wedgewood. I think it was originated by Dr. Franklin Cook. Another is a beautifully formed little blue of Geddes Douglas' called Billet-Doux and the other is a little pink seedling of his, No. 422-A.

Coming back to the whites, Gentle Florence did well everywhere I saw it this year. It is a cold white, very much the child of Snow Flurry. Snow Flurry gives to all her offspring good looks and her own particular texture. It was raining hard when I got to Theme Song and Admiral Nimitz growing side by side. I had only five minutes to study them to see if I could determine whether there was one or two cents worth of difference. I finally gave up since it was too hard to decide really if there was any at all. They both suggest an old iris of Hans Sass's called The Moench—never introduced. I used to think it was the prettiest white in Mr. Fishburn's garden and so did the gardener. It was leggy though and these two irises are far superior to it. They both are beautiful and good performers.

#### PINK CAMEO A FAVORITE

Among the pinks Pink Cameo is perhaps the most finished and best iris of the flamingos. However I have not seen the very latest. But they all are very alike; all in the buds are very pink. When they open they are that shade called by the department stores rose beige. The standards are usually pinker than the falls. The variation in all of them is so little and insignificant that if you have some now you need not pine for the more expensive ones. The first day at Three Oaks the bud on Pink Sensation was very exciting but the next morning it was the rose beige of all the rest. I had just as soon have Loomis V-20 as any of them unless it would be Pink Cameo.

The Prairie Sunset descendants are becoming alarmingly numerous. When I said that perhaps there were too many introductions of them, Mrs. D. S. Overstreet remarked, "Oh no. Let them introduce all they want to. The more varieties introduced, the cheaper they will get. Do you remember when Copper Lustre was \$50 a rhizome? And when



Prairie Sunset was around a \$100? Now they start at \$25. I wish so many would be introduced that looked alike that the price would start at \$5 or even \$1."

All these new tans and coppers would have stopped the show ten years ago. One of the attractive new ones looking like a sun-tanned Prairie Sunset is called Susitna Sunset. Good News in the light tans was outstanding everywhere I went this year, in Spartanburg, Danville and Roanoke. In Mr. Cannon's garden it was especially fine. It stands rain well. Cordovan was giving a good account of itself in Mrs. Blake's garden. Pretty Quadroon, Melodist, Argus Pheasant and General Patton: I wonder, having looked at them all and studied their names for five minutes, if I could go back and place the markers correctly if they were removed. But there is one iris for which I can find no counterpart. I can think of none that are ringers for Voodoo. That and Star Shine are by themselves in their respective color classes. Voodoo is a real color break.

Among the reds the reddest iris I saw this year was Wills 1644. It has a nice shape also. I have seen Winston Churchill for two years now, once in Nashville and in two Roanoke gardens and Spartanburg this year. It looks like a lot of the seedlings one gets from the red crosses. The bloom is small and tucks its falls. I am wondering if a seedling could have been sent by mistake. I know of one very good iris that is quite different in three gardens because seedlings were sent by mistake. Winnie, who I wish were eligible for the presidency of the United States, deserves a better iris for a namesake.

### GOOD, HONEST LAVENDERS

This year there were some very pretty feminine real lavender irises in all the gardens. They made no claim to being anything but lavender. Lavender Mist is very pretty. Another fine one is McKee 4659. It was as pretty as anything I saw in the debutant bed. Another perfectly gorgeous iris in this same tint of lavender was a big one not even under number, of Dr. Kleinsorge's. We all called it "Kleinsorge's Whopper." It laid the "just-garden-fans" in the aisles, it was so dramatic. These are the first lavenders that I have been keen about. B. P. O. E. was very cleverly named. It is the very shade of deep purple that is the "Elk's Pride." Vassar was also along the same color line. For the old Persia fans who like the gray and purple tones I suggest Duet. It is tan and purple with a tan edge to the purple falls. Violine is as you would surmise, a violet with smooth texture like Chivalry. It suggests a purple Chivalry.

For unique coloring, for good shape and substance that can take the rain and cold wind and never flop I submit to you Star Shine. I liked it even better this season than I did last year. It and Voodoo are the newest ideas in colors we have had since Prairie Sunset, and the flamingos. Spanish Galleon is bright in coloring but only for those who like stripings and veining. One reddish purple very well shaped and with good substance and good branching that I had not seen before this year is called Vice-Regal, from our Canadian enthusiast, Mr. William Miles.

Dr. Palmer's seedlings were not blooming but one clump of General Ike had the biggest rhizomes I have seen in the East. One could have believed that it had been grown in the magic dirt that Mr. Maxwell or Mr. Cooley has instead of the poor Virginia soil that can make a table iris out of El Capitan.

For once in my life I saw a clump of Mellowglow with five bloom stalks on it. I have seen rhizomes but never a bloom before. I was disappointed in it, but evidently it makes a good parent since some of its children are lovely, and of course better doers.

You iris fans who are also antique fans should plan to go to Spartanburg to see the irises and at the same time see Mrs. Cannon's unusual antiques and hear her talk about them. After it got too dark to see the irises we went to see her collection of china and furniture and get on the side a lot of the history of South Carolina as we were given the low-down on the various tables, chairs and glass and china pieces.

### BACK TO OLD VIRGINIA

Back home again in Roanoke we found the opening chorus already starting. Grace Tetley, a fine deep yellow that starts with the earlies and keeps on blooming till Extravaganza puts in an appearance, comes to us from England. Everywhere irises were showing a little color. Blue Delight had big buds and plenty of them because it is a fine iris as I have said before. After seeing what we had in our own gardens we set out for the others. Incidentally there are now six good gardens in Roanoke with fine representative collections of irises. There is The Garden (our name for Mr. Junius Fishburn's). Then next to his, perhaps the best collection belongs to Mrs. Overstreet. Mr. Fishburn's mother and Mrs. Alan Brown grow irises the best of all and Mrs. Herbert and Mrs. Davis have choice collections. Mrs. Brown is growing her plants in new ground where irises have never grown before. I believe that there is something in new soil that irises take out that is never put back again—they always seem better the



first two years in new ground than ever again. I remember on the 1946 trek in Boston how well Mr. Barker's irises were growing in that new ground. Even old Moonglo was so fine and tall I did not recognize it.

This year in Mrs. Overstreet's garden I saw a clump of China Maid decidedly off-color—much paler than that of the clump in another location. When I asked about it she said she had bleached it out accidentally with too much superphosphate. I knew of course that too much superphosphate would shorten the stem but this was the first time I had known it had any effect on the color. Mrs. Overstreet showed me last year three rhizomes of Mohrson she had bought on the West Coast. They had thrown up nine bloomstalks and seven new rhizomes. She goes in especially for the pinks and the oncos. Last fall Lady Mohr sent up three bloom spikes but the frost came too early. This year in the spring it had just as fine spikes.

Mrs. Brown has a lovely fall-blooming iris with a past shrouded in mystery. She rescued it several years ago from Mr. Fishburn's compost pile. We think it is one of his seedlings though he doesn't know. The color is coppery with a touch of blue in the falls. It grows amazingly fast and is very floriferous, but never blooms in the spring. Every year in the fall shows she wins blue ribbons both in the arrangement and horticultural classes with it. Everybody always wants to know the name. It is a fine iris and the bar sinister on its escutcheon as to its parentage hasn't bothered it at all.

Mrs. Overstreet had the most magnificent clump of Golden Madonna and a smaller one of Mission Madonna. These are good irises. She is partial to the flamingo pinks and has quite a collection of them. Again in her garden Loomis V-20 was the outstanding pink. In Danville I saw the tallest stalk of Pink Cameo I have ever seen. It was around 48 inches and Sylvia Murray was all of 50. They were in Mr. Ernest Murray's garden, where there was a small but very choice collection of irises. In Danville all the iris fans like Ave Maria and National White. The latter is spectacular for size. But they do not have New Snow or Lady Boscawen or any of our other glamorous white queens.

A new yellow in Mr. Fishburn's garden was making itself noticed—a hard thing to do where there are so many fine yellows. It was Fay 147-2, with color a bright intense yellow and an edge like Chantilly. In spite of all our yellows both new and old, Fred Cassebeer maintains that what this country needs is not a good five cent cigar but a good yellow iris. A whole group of new irises from several of the well known hybridists were growing near-by. One fine tall blue that could hold its own in the company of Sylvia Murray and Blue Rhythm was Mirror

Lake. I have seen it in several gardens this year and last, and everywhere it gets a lot of praise. Another in the gayest, most vivid orchid was called Gay Orchid. Mr. Muhlestein should be proud of these irises. Incidentally, next to the BULLETINS and the regional bulletins my favorite periodical is Tell Muhlestein's catalogue. I wish all the others would write in that way. I feel as though he were sitting down talking to me.

At Mr. Fishburn's Distance was the bluest of the so-called blues. It was a blue tone having a lot of gray in it. But for all around good performance I will take Blue Rhythm. There is a style to this iris and a velvety texture to the falls that will keep it in the top ten for many years, I think. My weakness is of course the light blues. This year a new one appeared on the scene. Jane Phillips is a deeper Helen McGregor. It has the same good texture and substance and also the same shortened standards as compared with the falls. Quite often we get these irises that are pretty despite the fact that the standards may not be in what the judges call "pleasing proportion." You will remember that White Goddess had standards that were too long for the falls. Helen McGregor and Jane Phillips have falls too long for the standards. But who cares? They are all lovely irises. Another blue was quite lovely in the morning, a bright blue with frills galore in the standards and falls that flared nicely. Belair was the name of it and I made a lot over it in my notes. When I came back in the afternoon it had flopped and the standards had drooped down over the falls and the poor little iris was a total wreck. I got the impression from the fresh blooms that it had onco blood in it. Sky Ranger had lost some of the glamour it seemed to have last year. Too much competition, I suppose. However it is still spectacular with its 52-inch spike.

Misty Rose is a larger and more definitely colored Melitza with a self beard. However it has curls in the stalks after a hot day. This doesn't worry a flower arranger. This year Mr. David Hall had several surprises in the way of new colors for us. One was a very vivid lavender-pink, No. 46-47½ (that ½ is puzzling to me). It is guaranteed to catch your eye however far away from you it is in the garden. I have noticed for several years now that the colors of irises are getting less and less "subdued." Ella Callis and Rocket started it and now there are more than a dozen prepared to stand their ground with the more vivid poppies, roses and peonies. Rainbow Room and Whiting's No. 4618 are two that I can think of. Rainbow Room is the color I imagined that Prairie Sunset was going to be when I used to read about it before I ever saw it. It isn't so reliable a bloomer as one would want but it has the color.

One of our lovely irises is Lady Louise. It manages to get a lot of



attention right in the neighborhood of irises like Blue Rhythm and the Hall pinks. It is going to be a reliable one, I think, like Ola Kala or Shining Waters or Gudrun.

The season was over before I realized it. My own garden did not get weeded because my husband was in and out of hospitals from February on and I decided to sit this iris season out in other people's gardens. The borers have had a field day in mine. But I did manage to see gardens in Spartanburg, Danville and Roanoke. So, with a bow toward the cowboy Carusos—

“I like the homes where the iris judge roams,  
Where the thrips and the green aphid play,  
Who never have heard an encouraging word  
And the borers eat arsenic all day.”

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## ***In Memoriam***

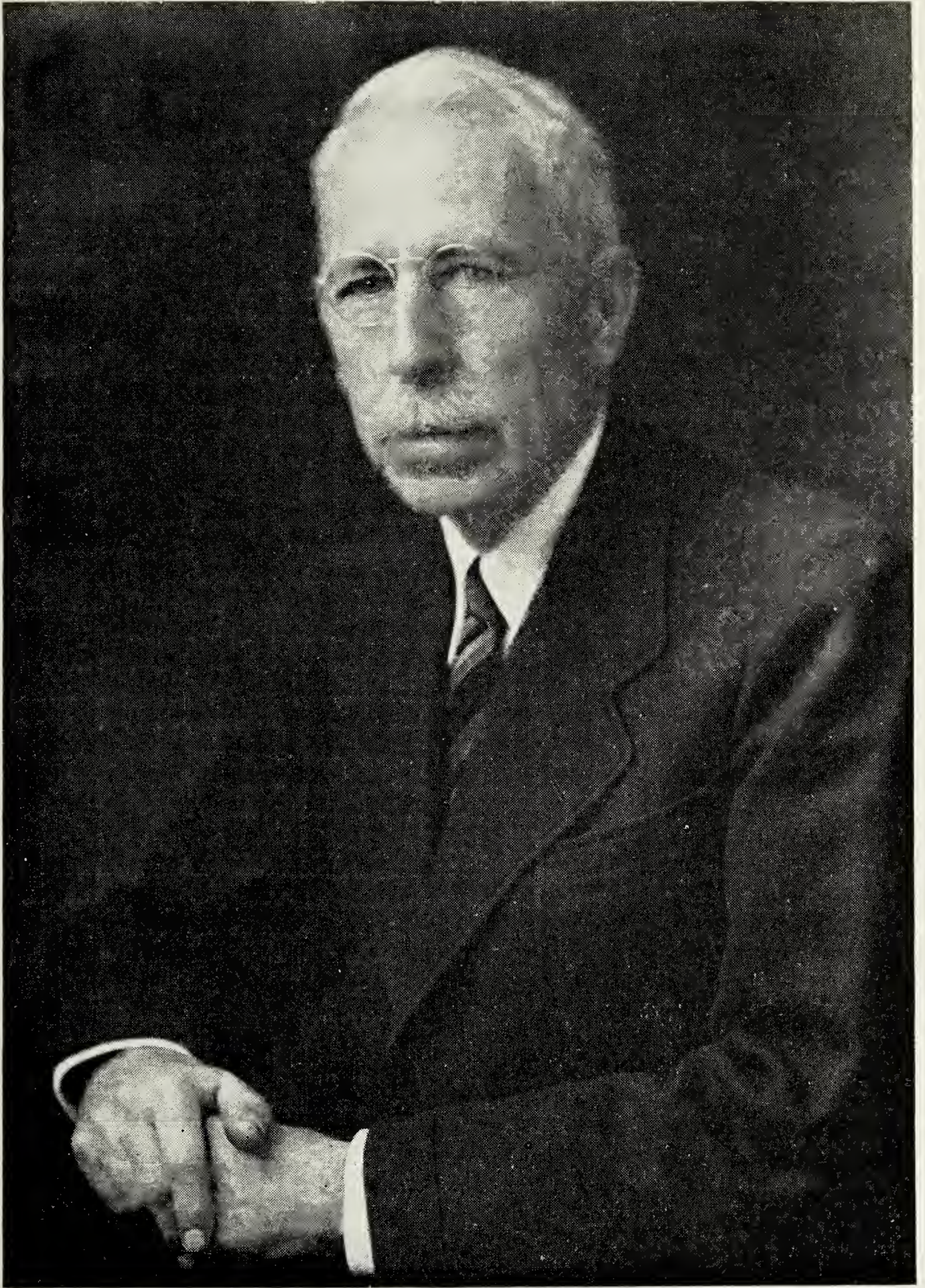
### **Dr. Harry H. Everett**

Medicine and horticulture have always mixed well, and in the life of Dr. Harry H. Everett, President of the American Iris Society between 1935 and 1939, this combination brought him fame in both directions. In surgery he entered active practice in Lincoln, Nebraska, following the footsteps of his father, Dr. M. H. Everett, one of the pioneer surgeons of that state. Keenly interested in medical research, he was the first surgeon in this country to operate under local anesthesia, bringing with him from Vienna and Jena the first novocaine.

The Everett garden in Lincoln was visited annually by hundreds of his iris friends, who recognized Dr. Harry as an iris connoisseur of the first water. He tempered criticism with humor and despite the heavy demands on his time from his exacting profession, always found time to chat with the iris enthusiasts, experienced or neophyte, who thronged to his side to take advantage of his keen perception and judgment of iris. Among his close friends were John Wister, Ben Morrison and Richardson Wright, all stellar performers in the horticultural scene. Behind them, but nonetheless important to Dr. Everett, came the hundreds of less known but just as ardent admirers of his who found in him those qualities of friendliness and warm sympathy without which no man can be considered great.

—Franklin Cook, M.D.





Townsend photo

DR. HARRY H. EVERETT



## ***In Memoriam***

**Elias Nelson**

**Frank Albert Thole**

**Luke W. Norton**

Washington State iris fanciers and, in fact, gardeners all over the country will greatly miss three veteran iris breeders who passed away within a one-month period during the late summer of this year.

ELIAS NELSON, of Yakima, died on August 9 at the age of 73 years. He was a widely known botanist and for many years a noted iris breeder. His three introductions, Show Girl, Saluskin and Selah, are distinguished additions to the list of modern irises.

Mr. Nelson's "Garden Fans' Fancies" in the local papers each Sunday covered a wide field of garden activities and furnished valuable information to readers on how to select and handle the best species and varieties of flowers. He also contributed articles to the AIS BULLETIN.

It is hoped that Mr. Nelson's family will have published in book form the long list of articles he has written, as they make up a substantial contribution to garden literature in general.

FRANK ALBERT THOLE died August 16 at his home in Seattle. He was 84 years old.

Mr. Thole issued his first iris catalogue in 1930. Among his introductions were Sea Deep, Rosario, Noontide, Moki, Satsuma, Glacier Blue and many other fine things. He retired from active business in 1940. It was largely through Mr. Thole's efforts that Seattle became iris-minded in a serious way, and gardeners in that area will feel keenly his loss.

LUKE W. NORTON, 74 years of age, died in Yakima on September 4. An iris hybridizer of note, he will long be remembered for such introductions as Sylvia Murray, Rajah Brooke, The Capitol and Easter Bonnet. Just a few days before his death Mr. Norton was advised of the 1949 Award of Merit voted for his fragrant, light blue Sylvia Murray.

Mr. Norton's iris display gardens were open to the public every season, and thousands of visitors will remember his efforts toward bringing the best in irises to Yakima. From a host of fine seedlings this year he had selected two beautiful ones—Rose Ames, a lovely lavender-white with lemon heart, and Chinook Pass, a light blue seedling from Sylvia Murray—for introduction in 1950. The iris world sustains a great loss in his passing.

—*Alexander Maxwell*

# Iris Shows in 1949

MRS. RALPH E. RICKER, (IOWA)

*Chairman, Exhibition Committee*

## ATKINSON, NEBR.

Approximately 650 visitors attended the Atkinson Iris Show—held in co-operation with the American Iris Society—on May 24 and 25 at the Memorial Hall.

The high point winner, Mrs. George H. Frohardt, was awarded the AIS Silver Medal. Mrs. I. R. Dickerson won the Bronze Medal for exhibiting the best specimen stalk; her winning entry was the variety Happy Days. Third place went to Mrs. F. E. Skrdla.

In the junior division James Purtzer gained first place by amassing the most points in this division.

Mrs. Fern Irving, Omaha, an AIS accredited judge, judged the show and Mrs. Lois Ann Martens was secretary.

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## CHILLICOTHE, TEXAS

The Iris Show, "Picture of Spring," staged by the Chillicothe Garden Club on April 29, was most successful in spite of heavy rains preceding the opening day. It was the first accredited show held here under the American Iris Society's rules and regulations. The excellent attendance was evidence of genuine interest. People from many towns within a radius of 200 miles and more registered.

The show was held in the American Legion and Lions Hall. The focal point of the setting was a large flower picture—a huge gold frame with a background



Caldwell photo

"Pictures of Spring" were featured in the arrangement classes of the Chillicothe, Texas, iris show.



of bronze satin holding a gorgeous mass arrangement of magnificent iris blossoms blended from light to dark in all colors of the rainbow. The artistic arrangement classes were placed on either side to characterize the theme of the show, "Picture of Spring." A fine collection of specimen stalks was on display, which gave Chillicotheans an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the bloom designated as the city flower. There was much interest among the visitors, many of them taking notes on varieties.

One of our local artists, Mrs. Richard Kempf, added color and interest by sketching and painting outstanding arrangements during the show hours.

The Silver Medal of the AIS was awarded to Mrs. Earl McGee for the greatest number of prize points. The Bronze Medal was won by Mrs. W. W. Bragg for the second highest number of points. The third prize point total went to Mrs. Kirby Williams, but since she is a member of the AIS, the membership award was given to Miss Joyce Heath, who won fourth place.

Several AIS memberships were secured during the show. Judges were Mrs. L. E. Brooke, Iowa Park, Texas, accredited judge of the AIS and Mrs. Floyd Randel and Mrs. Joe Staley, Wichita Falls, Texas, nationally accredited judges for garden clubs. Mrs. Jack Sims was chairman of the show.

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## ENID, OKLA.

The North Central Iris Society of Oklahoma held its second annual Iris Show in cooperation with the AIS on May 7 and 8 in the Education Building. There was a good attendance and a wealth of good bloom to admire.

In competition furnished by more than 750 entries, Mrs. A. W. Lietz won the American Iris Society Silver Medal for the most blue ribbons. Mrs. Lietz also won the year's membership in the AIS for having earned the most points in the specimen classes.

The finest specimen stalk—Spun Gold—was shown by Mrs. D. E. Parker. She received the AIS Bronze Medal. Mrs. Parker also won the top prize for having won the most blue ribbons in the collection class. Mrs. J. A. Harley won first place in the arrangement classes.

Mr. Harry Thomas, Region 17 Vice-President, and Mr. J. Lee Rogers judged the specimens and collections and Mrs. J. R. Weldon judged the arrangements. Mrs. J. C. Humphrey was show chairman and Mrs. W. A. Nutt show secretary.

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## HOLLYWOOD, CALIF.

The first venture of the Southern California Iris Society in sponsoring the Hollywood Iris Show at Plummer Park was an outstanding success. Show manager Mr. George LaNonk and his efficient committee should be highly commended for the professional manner in which the affair was handled.

There were loads of iris. The dates selected hit the season just right and the iris people really "came through" with the goods. Almost two thousand people visited the show and many thought it so satisfactory that they made a special effort to search out the officers to offer congratulations. Those who have witnessed the shows in the past ten years were quick to declare this the best of all—a wonderful compliment when it is taken into consideration that this was the first attempt by the Southern California Iris Society. The show committee acknowledges the splendid cooperation from the County of Los Angeles, Department of Parks and many members of the Hollywood Garden Club, previous sponsors, who so generously gave of their service.

Of particular interest was the unique staging of "A Woodland Scene" by Eric Nies—a portrayal of the type of setting in which the Louisiana iris were discovered. Mr. Nies's exhibit was voted the best in the show, thus winning for him the Merritt Silver Cup.

The commercial exhibits in the patio were outstanding, Mr. Tom Craig's display being declared best by the judges.

The Silver Medal of the AIS was won by Mrs. Elsie Heimer for receiving the most points in the show. Mrs. Heimer exhibited the best specimen stalk, Peg Dabagh, a Tom Craig origination, and was given the Southern California Iris Society Gold Seal Certificate and also the Merritt Trophy Gold Cup. She also won another certificate for the best specimen stalk of non-bearded iris, a California native hybrid originated by Eric Nies, called Blue Sage.

The Bronze Medal of the AIS, for the second highest points, went to Mrs. Paul J. McMahon. Dr. R. H. Roswell won the third-place award.

The "Clara Goes Cup," given for the best plicata grown by an amateur, was won by Mrs. Paul McMahon with a stalk of Blue Shimmer.

A Merritt Trophy Gold Cup for the best flower arrangement, iris with iris foliage, was won by Mrs. Muriel Wright. This is her third win, so the cup will remain in her possession.

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## JENKINSBURG, GA.

The Jenkinsburg Garden Club held its fourth annual Iris Show April 23 under the auspices of the American Iris Society.

One of the interesting features of the show were clumps of iris with a background of pine trees in the entrance hall. Many outstanding exhibits were entered from the garden clubs in the county. In the class calling for arrangements in the French manner, Towaligo Garden Club was winner of the blue ribbon, Mimosa Garden Club was second-place winner, and Ringgold Garden Club won third place.

Mrs. T. T. Patrick won the Silver Medal for the most points in the show, Mrs. M. B. Farrar received the Bronze Medal for winning the second highest number of points, and Mrs. F. W. Childs had the third highest total. Since the membership award of the American Iris Society must be given to a non-member of the Society, this went to Mrs. J. H. Jackson, fourth-place winner.

The most outstanding specimen in the show—Sierra Blue—was grown by Mrs. T. T. Patrick, who also won a special award for the best arrangement in the show.

Judges for the specimen and collection classes were Mr. Milton Blanton and Mr. E. Fay Pierce, both of Atlanta. Judges for the arrangement classes were Mrs. Robert Walker and Mrs. O. N. Mathis of Griffin, and Mrs. Kathleen Carswell of McDonough, Ga.

Although Jenkinsburg is a small community, it is a place where specimen iris are grown to perfection. This annual show is considered an outstanding event by iris growers throughout the state. Mrs. M. B. Farrar was show chairman and Mrs. H. C. Brooke president of the garden club.

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## KANSAS CITY, MO.

Ola Kala, that grand deep yellow iris, was Queen of the Iris Show held May 14 and 15 at the Little Theatre in the Kansas City Municipal Auditorium. The show was held in cooperation with the American Iris Society.

A well balanced, well shaped stalk of Ola Kala, exhibited by Mrs. Joseph



Pavala of Sugar Creek, was rated the best bloom in the show by the judges, Rev. David R. Kinish of St. Benedict's College and Ray Rickman of Joplin, Mo.

While there was a good representation of newer varieties in the specimen classes, a major share of the awards was won by established favorites of some years' standing. Both in the amateur and commercial classes such stalwarts as Matterhorn, Amigo, Wabash, China Maid, Sable, Azure, Skies, Golden Spike, Frank Adams, Red Valor, Blue Shimmer, Elmohr, Old Parchment and Ola Kala dominated their respective classes. Mr. William A. Kolb, show chairman and president of the Greater Kansas City Iris Society, reported that 5,000 blooms were on display.

Excellent publicity was obtained through the Kansas City Star, both in their morning and evening papers, and the radio station provided spot announcements. The American Iris Society's Bronze Medal was awarded to Mrs. W. R. Calloway for receiving the most prize points, and the AIS membership was won by Mrs. Maud Holloway. In the commercial division a special display award was given to Mrs. J. W. Morgan of Morgan's Gardens.

The stage and center decorations were arranged and set up by Mohr Bros., Florists, and a great deal of credit should be given to Mr. Henry Mohr, who personally assisted in putting in these displays.

Although show chairman Kolb had an excellent committee, the success of the event was due largely to the freely contributed efforts of the entire membership in the Kansas City area. Mr. Kolb and his associates were delighted with the character of the displays and specimen exhibits. This show represents an impressive expansion from the society's first one, and all are looking forward to a bigger and better show next year.

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#### KILGORE, TEXAS

The Kilgore Garden Club members held their annual Spring Flower Show on April 19 at the Junior College gymnasium. Specimen iris blooms were displayed in a garden separated from the rest of the show by a small white picket fence. Cloth of Gold, exhibited by Mrs. L. L. Allums, was selected as the most outstanding iris specimen.

Mrs. Allums was awarded the Silver Medal of the American Iris Society for winning the most points in the show; Mrs. Bert Wrather, in second place, was awarded the Bronze Medal of the Society. For the third-place prize Mrs. W. O. Stewart received an AIS membership.

Mrs. S. W. Ray of Fort Worth, an accredited judge of the AIS, judged the show, which the committee feels was very successful.

Mrs. L. N. Crim was chairman of the iris division.

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#### KIRKSVILLE, MO.

In spite of a wind storm which uprooted trees in part of the town the night before the show, there was a splendid exhibit with many fine iris on hand.

Mrs. Walter H. Ryle was the winner of the AIS Silver Medal for receiving the most points. Mrs. Ryle also won the Bronze Medal for exhibiting the best specimen stalk; it was the variety Red Amber. One of the outstanding seedlings exhibited was "Colonel Bob," an origination of Dr. Ryle.

The committee was especially pleased with the junior division this year, there being some splendid blooms exhibited, with thirty-nine juniors making entries.

Dr. H. W. Schirmer of St. Joseph, Mo., assisted by Dr. W. J. Hunt, also of St. Joseph, were the judges. Mrs. E. W. Scott was the show chairman.

## MACON, GA.

The Macon Iris Show, in cooperation with the American Iris Society and the City Department of Parks, was held April 16 at the Ingleside Community Clubhouse. It was sponsored by the Napier Heights, Cherokee Heights, Vista Ridge, and Ingleside-Rivoli garden clubs.

For the second consecutive year, Mrs. William T. Wood received the highest number of points, but at her request the AIS Silver Medal was given to the next highest point winner, Mrs. W. H. Cutter. The Bronze Star Medal was awarded to Mrs. C. T. Wolfe, and Mrs. J. Buford Freeman won a year's membership in the AIS.

Many beautiful blooms were shown in the twenty-six classes of specimens. The one rated best was an entry from Mrs. T. L. Minter. There were also six classes of arrangements, including one for the garden clubs. Mrs. Grover A. Meaders' spiral arrangement of yellow Dutch iris and pitcher plant in a brass container was selected as most outstanding in the show.

Judges for the specimen and collection classes were Messrs. Milton Blanton, Atlanta, L. H. Beck, Griffin, and Frank B. Childs, Jenkinsburg, Ga.— all accredited AIS judges. Arrangements were judged by Mrs. O. N. Mathis, Griffin, Mrs. Kathleen Carswell, McDonough, and Mrs. Frank Childs, Jenkinsburg— all accredited by the National Council of Judges.

Mrs. C. E. Biggerstaff was general chairman and Mrs. Jack Cates co-chairman of the show. Macon irisarians, enthusiastic over the success of their 1948 and 1949 shows, have definite plans now to make them an annual event.

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## MIO, MICH.

The Mio Irisarians, in cooperation with the American Iris Society, held their fifth annual Iris Show June 12 at the Mio Community Building. This show is open to anyone living in northeastern Michigan. In spite of unfavorable weather, the show was very successful, and there were many entries from neighboring towns.

The Silver Medal of the AIS was awarded to Mr. Bennett Azer for winning the most prize points. Mrs. Letha Shantz, Fairview, Mich., won the Bronze Medal with her entry of Ola Kala, which was judged the best stalk on display. Mrs. Shantz was also awarded the book, "The Complete Book of Flower Arrangement," for receiving the most points in the collection classes. Mrs. Charlotte Welcome, Oscoda, Mich., received a year's membership in the AIS as high point winner among non-members.

Mr. Franklin S. Sullivan, Farmington, Mich., was the official AIS judge; he was assisted by Mr. Charles Hall of Detroit. Prof. C. E. Wildon, Floriculture Department, Michigan State College, judged the flower arrangements.

The evening program consisted of a talk on iris by Mr. Sullivan, then Mr. Hall showed Kodachrome slides of the most recent iris varieties and Prof. Wildon gave a demonstration of flower arrangement. The John Ott sound-color film, "How to Grow Iris," was shown.

Among the winners in the bearded section besides Ola Kala were Pink Reflection, General Patton, Anna Williamson, Berkeley Gold, Wabash, Tobacco Road, Lighthouse, The Red Douglas, Prairie Sunset, Spun Gold, Blue Shimmer, and Tiffanja.

The American Legion Auxiliary of Mio won first place in the display for garden clubs or societies. Their entry was iris with other flowers representing a garden planting.

Mr. Devere Dockham was show chairman.



## NEOSHO, MO.

Due to the early bloom of the iris and the Garden Club's inability to secure a suitable hall when the iris bloomed, the show was called off. The iris were beautiful at blooming time, and there is so much interest in iris in Neosho that the town as a whole regrets not having the event. However, there will be a show next season. Mr. Emsley Sims had been named as show chairman.

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## ST. LOUIS, MO.

A most successful Spring Flower Show, sponsored by the St. Louis Horticultural Society in cooperation with the American Iris Society, was held May 14 and 15 in the display house of the world famous Missouri Botanical Garden. Thousands of visitors from Missouri and surrounding states viewed the display.

Standing first in prize points, Clifford W. Benson was awarded the Silver Medal of the AIS. Mr. Benson also won the AIS Bronze Medal for exhibiting the most outstanding stalk of the show—Snow Flurry.

Mrs. Walter H. Buxton showed a superb collection of Dykes Medal winners which received considerable attention. In the arrangement classes the award was given to Mrs. Ellsworth Appel for her outstanding and attractive entries. Mr. William Spreitzer was winner of the AIS membership award.

A Certificate of Commendation was voted for Bellerive, a huge ruffled and flaring light yellow iris from Clifford Benson and to Ellsworth Appel's Seedling 48-6 (Prince of Orange X Louvois), an orange-yellow self.

Ralph M. Schroeder, Warrensburg, Ill., and Dr. C. E. Branch, Piper City, Ill., were the judges, while Elmer H. Tiemann was chairman and Clifford W. Benson co-chairman of the show.

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## SHREVEPORT, LA.

"Gateway to Spring," the Spring Flower Show of the Broadmoor Garden Club, held in the educational rooms of the Broadmoor Baptist Church on April 22, was attended by almost one thousand guests. The iris section of this show was held in cooperation with the American Iris Society.

The staging of the show was most attractive, with iris and roses used in the garden which was the center of interest. Old, well beloved types were in evidence, but the specimen tables were crowded with splendid blossoms of the rarest varieties. Spectacular in themselves were the colorful Louisiana native iris. The horticultural and arrangement entries in the iris section were especially outstanding, as the date of the show coincided with the peak blooming season in Shreveport.

As members and their guests entered the rooms they were greeted by little girls with flower baskets who pinned them with spring blossoms. Passing through the garden gate intertwined with climbing roses and ivy one viewed a dream of loveliness. Iron grill arbors with Paul's Scarlet climbers and artistic wooden trellises and a fish pool and bird bath surrounded by native iris formed a beautiful scene.

Mrs. Alex Smith was awarded the Silver Medal of the American Iris Society for the most blue ribbons and Mrs. Sam Caldwell received the AIS Bronze Medal for an outstanding stalk of Grand Canyon. The AIS membership was awarded to Mrs. Alton Sartor.

In the Siberian section, Tycoon and Caesar's Brother were the most admired while exhibits of *Iris tectorum alba* and *I. cristata* created much interest as they are not commonly grown in the region.

Among the blue ribbon winners in the bearded section, in addition to Grand Canyon, were Snow Velvet, Easter Bonnet, Gold Medal, Minnie Colquitt, City of Lincoln, Tiffany, Old Rose, Sunset Blaze, Cherie, Mulberry Rose, and Carousel. Many of the older varieties held their own with the newer introductions.

In the beardless classes Fairy Chalice, Cajan Joyeuse, Ruth Dormon, and Ruth Marsailis were outstanding. The Abbeville Reds were used for display, as were large collections of *giganticaeruleas*.

Mrs. W. R. Mathews was the AIS judge and Mrs. Walter Colquitt was chairman of the iris section.

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## SIOUX CITY, IOWA

The annual Iris Show of the Sioux City Garden Club in cooperation with the American Iris Society was held May 25 and 26 in the lobby of the new Security Bank.

Mrs. N. C. Slothower was awarded the AIS Silver Medal for winning the most points in the show. The AIS Bronze Medal was awarded to Mr. George Dubes for his entry of Great Lakes—a perfect spike with four open flowers and three buds showing color.

Mr. W. S. Snyder received an honorable mention award for his commercial display. His new seedling, Gratitude, received much favorable comment.

Mrs. Fern Irving, AIS accredited judge and accredited judge of garden clubs, judged the show. George Dubes was show chairman and Miss Ethel Chesterman co-chairman.

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## TEMPLE, TEXAS

Temple's first Iris Show was presented by the Temple Garden Club in cooperation with the American Iris Society on April 20 in the Recreation Room of the Grace Presbyterian Church.

The show was well attended and although heavy rains preceding it held down the number of entries, there was a wealth of blooms for visitors to enjoy.

Mr. J. W. Collier exhibited some very fine varieties in the specimen classes and was awarded the Silver Medal of the AIS for receiving the greatest number of points. The AIS Bronze Medal went to Mrs. Preston A. Childers for having the most perfect bloom in the show—a stalk of Nightfall.

Mrs. E. V. Maresh, standing second in prize points, won the year's membership in the AIS.

The judges for the show were: Specimens, Mrs. W. R. Jordan of Ft. Worth, Mrs. A. M. Tallmon, also of Ft. Worth, and Mrs. W. C. Wilkes of Austin, Texas, accredited iris judges; Arrangements, Mrs. J. W. Marrs, Temple, Texas, and Mrs. A. M. Tallmon, nationally accredited judges of flower shows.

A membership booth was maintained throughout the show, gaining several new members for the AIS and seventeen for the local society.

Mrs. Jesse Jones was the show chairman.

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## WALLA WALLA, WASH.

Little doubt as to Walla Walla's claim to the title of "The Iris City" of the West was left in the minds of those who thronged to the Spring Flower Show of the Blue Mountain District May 18. The iris section of the show was held in cooperation with the American Iris Society.

Pine trees from the Blue Mountains formed the background for the iris section,



making a beautiful setting for the lovely colors of the iris. Several special features had been arranged utilizing this particular flower. To the left of the entrance, a small pool planted with Siberian iris, the interesting hybrid, *Paltec*, and the species *tectorum*—both blue and white—created much interest. To the right of the entrance was a garden with clumps of blooming iris arranged in naturalistic manner. Other features included an Iris Wheel of Fortune, featuring species which bloom practically the year-round. The Iris Insignia of the City was done in iris blooms and was very effective. Notable also was a demonstration showing the way to divide and plant iris employing actual rhizomes.

An outdoor table and umbrella with four matching chairs served as an information desk; displayed here were AIS BULLETINS, the book, "THE IRIS—AN IDEAL HARDY PERENNIAL," and information about joining the American Iris Society.

In the specimen and collection classes all tables and containers were covered with green crepe paper, giving a uniform and neat appearance. The specimen stalks were of very high quality, with many of the newer iris being shown. Some of the winners in the specimen class were New Snow, Great Lakes, Cascade Splendor, Mulberry Rose, Cherie, Solid Mahogany, Lighthouse, Grand Canyon, Ola Kala, Mexico, Rajah Brooke, Minnie Colquitt, Tiffanja, Warbler, Elmohr, Daybreak and Goldbeater. New Snow, exhibited by Mrs. Albert Haase, was judged the best specimen in the show.

Greatest number of first prize points in the iris section was awarded to Mrs. Haase, who will receive the American Iris Society Silver Medal. Second highest number of points and the Bronze Medal went to Mrs. Jake Smith. In third place and winner of the AIS membership was Mr. Vernon Whitney.

Mrs. L. B. Losey, accredited judge of the AIS, judged the specimen and collection classes and the arrangement classes were judged by Mr. and Mrs. O. B. Howell and Mrs. R. Brichtle of Spokane, Wash. Mrs. P. S. Alrich was show chairman, Mrs. Otto New, co-chairman, and Mrs. Albert Haase secretary.

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## WICHITA, KANS.

In cooperation with the American Iris Society, the Wichita Iris Club was host to the Region 18 Iris Show at the Wichita Art Museum May 7 and 8. All four states of the Region were well represented.

The dinner meeting of May 7 was held in Wolf's Cafeteria banquet room. The program consisted of numbers by a top notch local male quartet, followed by color slides and comments of Ray Rickman, Joplin, Mo. The business meeting was conducted by show chairman E. H. Mattingly, who introduced Regional Vice-President W. F. Scott, Jr., of St. Louis. Mr. Scott's timely remarks climaxed a very successful meeting.

There were some 300 specimen iris displayed in the show and many beautiful exhibits in the arrangement section. It was interesting to note the amount of competition in both sections from out-of-town iris fans. Orville M. Baker of Wichita was awarded the AIS Silver Medal for amassing the most prize points. The Bronze Medal went to John Ohl, who stood second. The AIS award of a year's membership in the Society was given to Mrs. W. E. Belt, for the non-member exhibitor having the next highest number of points.

The show judges were Father David Kinish, Dr. and Mrs. H. W. Schirmer, Dr. and Mrs. Lewis Clevenger and Houston Barclay. Mrs. H. V. Rice was the chairman of the exhibit committee.

A bus tour was conducted Sunday, May 8, and gardens visited were Orville Baker's, the Peacock Gardens and John Ohl's.





Detroit News photo, courtesy Isabel M. Grunau  
 It's only the beginning! Charles H. Hall holds the iris while Franklin S. Sullivan wields a shovel, and the first rhizome is set in the new Proving Ground of the Southern Michigan Iris Society. Kibitzers are J. A. Valentine, J. D. Marsh and Mrs. Hazel L. Shapiro.

## Iris Proving Ground in Detroit

While less than a year old, the Southern Michigan Iris Society has undertaken an ambitious project in the establishment of an Iris Proving Ground which should be of real value to iris growers in the Detroit area.

Mr. Franklin S. Sullivan, well known irisarian of Farmington, Michigan, is President of the new group. Of its activities he writes:

"We held our first meeting last January 14. We were mostly strangers, but it is surprising the way a group can become organized when the enthusiasm is there. We now have forty members and expect to add more. We have the blessing of the Detroit Iris Society, of which I am a member; in fact, many of our more active enthusiasts are now affiliated with both groups.

"Mr. Charles H. Hall—a nephew, by the way, of Mr. David Hall—is Chairman of the Proving Ground Committee, and Mr. J. A.



Valentine, 19977 Snowden Ave., Detroit, Michigan, is the Secretary.

"Our plot is approximately 100 by 100 feet (on the property of a member, Mrs. Diana Schuman, at 22219 Telegraph Road, Detroit). Late in August more than 200 named varieties, 100 selected seedlings and about 450 one- and two-year seedlings were planted. As we space the named varieties at 36-inch centers each way, we are almost filled up. We agree that untried seedlings must go next year, but we have another spot near-by for them."

The proving ground contains guest irises, gift irises belonging to the society, loan irises and "member" irises—the last-named belonging to members of the organization. "Guests" for trial and testing have been invited and Mr. Valentine, at the address given above, will be glad to correspond with hybridizers on this phase of the work.

"We realize," continues Mr. Sullivan, "that this is a long-range project. It will probably be five years before this garden reaches its full usefulness."

Other officers of the society, in addition to Mr. Sullivan, are Mr. Charles H. Hall, Vice-President; Mr. A. W. Steward, Recording Secretary; Mrs. Hazel Lawrence Shapiro, Corresponding Secretary, and Mr. Marcus H. Baker, Treasurer.

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RIVER FOREST, ILLINOIS

# Questions and Answers

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GUEST IRISES—*Will you explain about guest irises? Are there any well understood regulations? What are the obligations involved?*—R. E. J., Ore.

Iris breeders like to know how their prized seedlings will grow in different parts of the country; they like for them to be in gardens where many fanciers—especially accredited judges—will see them and express opinions as to their merits. Thus leading hybridizers years ago began to send out rhizomes of their choicest seedlings to close personal friends in various localities for trial and comment. Often the result of such tests would determine whether a particular seedling would be registered and introduced. The term “guest iris” came into use to describe these “on trial” plants, for it was understood that they were to be returned to the owners.

Gradually the practice has grown and guest irises now pass between fanciers who know each other only through correspondence. The breeder does not always initiate the action, as irises are now frequently “invited” into host gardens, especially when such gardens are scheduled to be on the program of a big regional or national meeting.

Through misunderstandings, very unpleasant situations occasionally develop over guest irises. There are a few generally understood principles, but ideas vary as to the exact obligations imposed

by the “guest-host” relationship. Fanciers undertaking this relationship should write down in advance a simple statement of the plan to be followed.

Two BULLETIN editors—Jesse Wills and Geddes Douglas—who have had much experience in sending out as well as “entertaining” guest irises, make the following suggestions:

*To the breeder who sends out guests—*

1. Don't send anyone guest plants without writing first to see that they will be welcomed; then advise when the rhizomes will be sent.

2. Don't send too many guests. The host's garden space may be limited; besides, it is an imposition to ask him to grow a dozen plants for a couple of years, then dig them all up, label, pack and mail back to you. Too, if you send only two or three, they'll probably get better attention than if you send a burdensome number.

3. Send only irises that are good in your own garden.

4. Don't expect anyone to grow your plants more than two years on a trial basis. Advise him then whether to send them back or to keep or destroy them.

5. Don't be too disappointed and blame the grower if your pet seedling doesn't do well for him or if he reports, “A nice iris but not really distinctive.” It's probably a perfectly honest opinion.

6. While you have a right to recall

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all stock from the host, many breeders say, "Keep a rhizome of each one you like when you send the plants back to me." This is a courteous thing to do, especially if you requested the host to take the irises for trial in the first place; it repays him for his trouble.

*To the host who grows guests—*

1. Don't accept guests irises unless you are able and willing to give them a reasonable amount of care and attention.

2. Remember that the guest iris doesn't belong to you. Make no distribution of it or its increase by gift, trade, sale or other means unless you have permission from the owner.

3. Give the breeder a report—either oral or written—on how the iris performs for you and what you think of it. If possible add the comments of any visiting judges who saw the bloom.

4. Upon request of the breeder, dig and return all of the guest iris unless he tells you to keep some of it.

5. Don't get upset if you invite a breeder to send you guest irises and he fails to do so. Remember that he can usually spare only two or three rhizomes of his newest and best seedlings that he wants tested. Probably he'll place these in the gardens of friends with whom he has been co-operating for years. It isn't that he doesn't like you; he just doesn't have stock to send you.

*To both parties—*

Tolerance, courtesy and consideration toward each other will prevent difficulties. A few crooks may garden, but not many. People who work with flowers are nearly always pleasant and easy to get along with.—S. C.

\* \* \*

**JUDGING SPECIMEN STALKS**—*Does the terminal bud have to be on the bloom stalk in order to have the exhibit qualify as a specimen? In case it has been skilfully removed, is the stalk disqualified or is it just penalized?—Mrs. J. R. S., Texas.*

No, a specimen stalk is not disqualified by removal of the terminal bud. The matter is not dealt with directly in the judging rules, but undoubtedly it would come under the heading of "condition" of the stalk. In other words, a specimen stalk that has had its terminal—or other—flower removed is not in as good condition as one that has not, and should be judged accordingly.

AIS accredited shows are frequently held in conjunction with general flower shows, and it is hard to set the dates of such shows to correspond with the peak blooming dates for irises. If removal of spent flowers caused disqualification, it would be difficult in many cases to have an iris exhibit at all.

Personally, when judging I count off very little if a bud or bloom has been removed carefully so that its absence is little noted, but a bungled job is another matter.—Geddes Douglas

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**LEAK IN THE DYKES**—*I have just learned (August 17) from the Pacific Coast that Helen McGregor won the 1949 Dykes Medal with Blue Rhythm the runner-up. Could I get additional details? How might I go about getting early information on the awards?—D. P. W., Ohio.*

The “Flash” cards mailed from Nashville on August 16 announced the Dykes and Award of Merit winners to all members. Complete details on all awards, of course, are contained in this BULLETIN. It is true, however, that the Dykes winner was known in various parts of the country before the announcement cards were mailed. The fact that you in Ohio received the news from the West Coast is not without a humorous angle, as several California members protested

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that we were giving the awards news first to “everybody in the East.”

Actually, the news was sent to every member as soon as possible after it was officially authorized for release. Ballots had to be mailed in by accredited judges by July 17, and many of them were posted on that last day. A full week was allowed at the Central Office to permit ballots from distant points to arrive; then a quick tabulation of the Dykes and A. M. votes on the 249 ballots was made. A form letter showing the results was prepared and mailed out to the Board of Directors with a request that the Directors notify the Chairman of the Awards Committee of their approval, so that the results might be made official.

Meanwhile, in order to save time, some 4,000 blank Postal Cards were

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addressed to the members and the "Flash" announcement was typed up and delivered to the printer, with instructions that he hold action until word of the Directors' approval was received. As soon as that came the type was set up and the cards run through the press and placed in the mail.

Apparently "leaks" of the awards results occurred during the time that all of this was transpiring, but it appears likely also that some of the

premature "grapevine" broadcasting of the Dykes winner was simply based on a good guess. After all, Helen McGregor had a commanding lead as the top-ranking Award of Merit iris in 1948. You didn't need a crystal ball to predict that she would run a great race for the Dykes honor this year. And if anyone told you before July 25 that Helen was the winner, you may be sure he was guessing, for the votes were not counted until that date.

Plans are being perfected, incidentally, to effect a quicker tabulation of *all* awards after the final ballots are in and to get news of all of them to our members promptly.—S. C.

\* \* \*

**MARKER FOR OPEN GARDEN**—*Our garden is open to the public, but no one passing by would ever know that we have lovely irises, as they are at the rear of our long, narrow lot. Have you suggestions for a suitable sign?—Mrs. R. F. S., Ill.*

I saw one solution to a problem like yours while on an iris trip last spring. A simple drawing of an iris plant with one bloom stalk and several leaves had been traced life size on a piece of plywood and then sawed out, apparently with a band-saw or jig-saw. It was painted in color on both sides and then coated with clear varnish. The lower end of the wood, below the plant, was pointed so that the marker could be stuck into the grass on the front lawn at the time the irises bloomed. A husband or teen-age son who likes to tinker in a workshop could turn out something of this sort in one evening.

More elaborate and permanent is the device used by "Dirt Dobber" Tom Williams of the CBS "Garden Gate" radio program for marking his garden. Living on a rural mail route outside of Nashville, he has at his gate the attractive wrought iron mail-box support shown in the accompanying photograph. The design, drawn by Mrs. Williams, was executed by a local iron worker.—S. C.



Caldwell photo

The "Dirt Dobber" shows his fondness for irises.



**ROT CONTROL**—*I would like more information on how to combat bacterial soft rot and mustard seed fungus in my iris garden. I have about 150 varieties of tall bearded, including many of the newer ones which I find much more beautiful than the old varieties but less hardy and disease-resistant. Do other growers have that same experience?—J. W. G., Vt.*

In your climate and mine in neighboring New York State it is important to select well drained soil with full exposure to sunlight for iris. If your garden is in a level place and you have trouble with bacterial soft rot it will help to raise the beds a few inches above the surrounding ground level. Avoid over-crowding. The iris should be spaced far enough apart so that air and sunlight can get to the base of the plants. Keep dead leaves cleaned up; remove flower stalks as soon as the blooming season is over and if plants continue to show a tendency to rot, remove diseased parts of the surface of the rhizomes so the sun and air can get to them.

If you have mustard seed rot the safest procedure is to remove the entire clump together with the soil near the plants and treat the remaining soil nearby with formaldehyde or bichloride of mercury. You must get rid of both the diseased plants and the "mustard seeds" or sclerotia which spread the disease. Soak the soil where the diseased plants were growing with bichloride of mercury diluted with from one to two thousand parts of water for one part of the bichloride powder. This is a very poisonous chemical and should be handled with caution. Commercial formalin also may be used in dilutions of about one part of formalin to 50 parts of water. Soak the ground at the rate of one-half gallon to a gallon of the solution per square foot of soil where the diseased plants were growing. Cover the treated soil with heavy paper or burlap bags for a couple of days to keep the formaldehyde fumes in the soil; then remove the cover and stir the soil occasionally for 10 days or two

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*Hemerocallis—Peonies*

weeks until the fumes have disappeared before replanting in the treated soil.

In the case of soft rot the bacteria which cause the disease are commonly present in most soils and it is a waste of time and effort to treat or replace the soil where diseased plants have been growing. Bordeaux mixture, potassium permanganate and various copper dusts or sprays may help prevent the disease to some extent. But in my experience sanitary precautions, keeping the plants free of weeds, dead leaves and other debris, prevention of over-crowding, a sunny location and well drained soil will keep soft rot under control except during prolonged spells of cold rainy weather when susceptible varieties may succumb to the disease.

Unfortunately many iris breeders during the past 20 or 30 years haven't paid much attention to the selection of hardy, disease-resistant stocks for breeding purposes, and many modern varieties are more susceptible to disease than the older standard ones.—L. F. Randolph.



# Iris Introducers and Their 1949 Introductions

*As compiled from statements filed with the Recorder of Introductions*

Austin, Lloyd, Rainbow Hybridizing Gardens, Placerville, Calif.

*Iris atropurpurea, I. barnumae, I. haynei, I. nazarena, I. nigricans.*

Buss, Walter E., Edenwald Gardens, Vincennes, Ind.

TB: AZTEC INDIAN, MASKED BALL, PINK TALCUM.

Callis, Ella, Wild Rose Iris Garden, St. Joseph. Mo.

TB: LANA KAY KUEHN.

Cassebeer, F. W., Orangeburg, New York

TB: TAPPAN.

DeForest, Fred, Monroe, Ore.

TB: CARABELLA, COLOR CARNIVAL, EBONY ISLE, GAY BORDER, PLUM PRETTY.

Fay, Orville W., Wilmette, Ill.

TB: TRULY YOURS.

Hall, David F., Wilmette, Ill.

TB: HERITAGE, ILLINOIS, MELODY LANE, TALLY HO.

Harper, Allen, Grandview, Mo.

TB: KANSAS CREAM, ROSEMOHR.

Holmberg, R. D., Holmberg Gardens, Neodesha, Kansas.

TB: PARTING HOUR.

Horton, Frances C., Irisdale Gardens, Elkhart, Ind.

DB: PETITE.

Johnson, Ruth M., Sheyenne Gardens, Fargo, N. D.

TB: SOLVEG.

Lothrop, Lena, The Lothrop Garden, San Bernardino, Calif.

TB: ALLRED, BEN BOLT, CONCINNA, FLOREA, ODE.

Lyon, David W., Lyon Iris Gardens, Van Nuys, Calif.

TB: CHAR-MAIZE. DOUGLASIANA: CAROLE CABEEN

Marx, Walter, Boring, Ore.

TB: BLUMOHR, TAN BOY. POGO-CYCLUS HYBRID: FLICKER.

McKee, W. J., Worcester, Mass.

TB: BLUE ANGEL WINGS, FAIRDAY.

Miess, Elma, Syllmar Gardens, San Fernando, Calif.

TB: SPRING ROMANCE.

Muhlestein, Tell, Tell's Iris Gardens, Provo, Utah

TB: AFTER MIDNIGHT, BELLE AMIE, BURMESE RUBY, GAY ORCHID, GLISTEN-GLOW, GREENGLOW, NIGHT SPOT, PINK FORMAL, SHINE ON, SKY TINT, SPORTING THOMAS, STORY TIME. REGELIA-POGON HYBRID: HOOGIE BOY.

Nesmith, Elizabeth N., Lowell, Mass.

TB: AUCOCISCO, BAY STATE, BEAU GAY, BLIZZARD, CORPORAL MARY, COVER GIRL, DUTCH BOY, FAR HILLS, GAYLORD, INDIAN RED, JUNIOR MISS, LELA DIXON, ON GUARD, PLUM TART, POLONADE, SARAH GOODLOE, SEAFARER SILVER SUNLIGHT, STAR SHINE, SUMMERTIME, WHITE PARCHMENT.

Plough, Gordon W., Wenatchee, Wash.

TB: LAUREL HILL.

Rogers, Glen, Sterling Iris Garden, Kansas City, Mo.

TB: CAROLYN LOUISE, DANIEL BERNARD, GOLDEN ACE, WINGS OF WHITE.

Salbach, Carl, Salbach Gardens, Berkeley, Calif.

TB: ICE KING.

Sass Brothers, Omaha, Neb.

TB: NEW ERA, PRETTY PANSY.

Schling, Max, New York, N. Y.

TB: CONGERS, VIDEO.

Schreiner, Robert, Schreiner's Iris Gardens, Salem, Ore.

TB: CONFETTI, HONOLULU BELLE, PINNACLE.

Schroeder, Ralph, A Village Garden, Warrensburg, Ill.

TB: BRIGHT SONG, ESTATE, MORNING, RED WAVES, SUNRISE SHADOWS, SWAN LAKE, TOSCA, WHITE SENTRY.

Smith, Kenneth D., Dongan Hills, Staten Island, N. Y.

TB: ANACONDA COPPER, GOLDEN DAYS, HELEN COLLINGWOOD, KEENE VALLEY, LIBERATOR, RED WITCH.

Stump, Mary M., Garden City Perennial Gardens, Fremont, Neb.

TB: PLATTE VALLEY GEM, PLATTE VALLEY QUEEN.

Taylor, Carl C., San Bernardino, Calif.

TB: PINK MATRON, VIOLET BRIGHT.

Tompkins, C. W., Fleur de Lis Gardens, Sioux City, Iowa

TB: BALLAD, BRITANNIA, CAPTIVATION, CARAVAN, COPPER CLAD, DARK FIRE, GALWAY BAY, MATADOR, MOON SONG, NOVA GRANDE, THE INTRUDER.

Weed, Wilbur & Inez, Western Iris Gardens, Eugene, Ore.

TB: LORNA LEE.

Whiting, Agnes C., Maple Valley Iris Gardens, Mapleton, Iowa

TB: ARABIAN NIGHTS, BOLD COURTIER, BRASS BAND, CADET BLUE, ETUDE, FLORAL WINE, GAY COMPANION, GOLDCRAFT, GOLD SOVERIGN, MOON LANTERN, PAPRIKA, PINK CORAL, RUMBA ROSE, SHOWBOAT.

Williamson, Mary, Longfield Iris Farm, Bluffton, Ind.

TB: ADIOS, PINK BOUNTIFUL.

Wolfe, W. G., Wolfe Gardens, Frisco, Texas

TB: ALTA TEXAS, FAIRIES DANCE, LIGHTED CANDLES.

OMISSIONS—This is a preliminary listing of 1949 iris introductions made under the auspices of the American Iris Society. It includes all new varieties and species described in statements of introduction filed by their introducers prior to September 1, 1949. Additional 1949 introductions, described in subsequent statements received before December 1, 1949, will be included in a supplementary list in the January, 1950, AIS BULLETIN.

—Robert E. Allen, Recorder of Introductions



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All of the dealers listed below are members of The American Iris Society. If you are buying Iris for your garden, it should be your particular pleasure to make your purchases from the dealers who have worked with and supported your Society. Your officers and directors invite your special attention to this list. They also ask a favor. When you order, tell the dealer you saw his name in the BULLETIN and do him a favor by not asking for a catalog unless you mean business.

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BULLETIN

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# Foreword

Surprised to find your January BULLETIN in two parts? That's because it contains a complete roster of the Society's members. This is a useful reference list, and for your convenience it is bound separately and included as a supplement with this issue. The "Gardens Open" feature of the list should prove especially helpful to those who go "iris trekking" during the bloom season.

Regrettably, the membership roll, even when set in small type, used up so many of the pages that could be allotted for one BULLETIN that several excellent articles originally scheduled for January had to be held over for the April issue.

\* \* \*

For the hundreds of friendly messages that came into the Nashville office during the holiday season the editors are deeply grateful. Our Society's members are a grand group of people. To each of you we wish prosperity and good gardening in 1950.—*The Editors*

OLA KALA DOES IT AGAIN!

(Frontispiece—Caldwell photo)

For the third consecutive year this rich yellow iris from the late Jacob Sass leads the AIS Symposium. It was the Dykes Medalist in 1948.

# The Hundred Favorite Irises of 1949

ROBERT E. ALLEN

*Conductor of the Symposium*

The results of the Tenth Official Symposium for the selection of the Hundred Favorite Irises of America in 1949 are here reported. This Symposium was participated in by 260 accredited judges of the American Iris Society and the ballots of these judges indicate a familiarity with more varieties than ever before and also give evidence of the immense amount of deliberation and decision that went into the selection and placement of 100 favorites out of a list of 300 eligible, award-winning varieties.

All in all, the Hundred Favorites of 1949 are not greatly different from those of 1948. Seven varieties lost their position in the first hundred and were replaced by seven others that had toiled up from the ranks. The 13 leaders of the Tenth Symposium are the same as those of the Ninth, although not ranking in exactly the same order. The three top leaders of 1949, Ola Kala, Great Lakes and Chivalry—Dykes Medalists all—were in the same order and position in 1948. Four of the first five leaders are of various tints of blue.

After ten years of the Symposium, a quick comparison of the First and Tenth may be of interest. In 1940, Kenneth D. Smith, founder of the AIS Symposium, listed 96 favorite irises, selected by 33 judges from a list of 325 varieties. In the First Symposium, Wabash ranked first with a score of 89.35, as now computed.

Of those 96 favorites of 1940, no less than 22 are listed still among the Hundred Favorites of 1949, while another eight of the 96 are found among the next 50 favorites of 1949. Truly, those 33 judges of 1949 selected better than they knew, and of their enduring selections more will appear subsequently.

Here are the Hundred Favorite Irises of the Tenth Symposium, of 1949.

TABLE I—THE HUNDRED FAVORITE IRISES OF 1949

VARIETY	1948 Rank	Times Rated	Total Points	Balanced Rating
1 Ola Kala, DM; '43	( 1 )	256	2416	93.64
2 Great Lakes, DM; '38	( 2 )	260	2351	90.42
3 Chivalry, DM; '44	( 3 )	248	2287	90.04
4 Helen McGregor, DM; '46	( 5 )	248	2271	89.41
5 Blue Rhythm '45	( 6 )	246	2177	86.04



## HUNDRED FAVORITES, Continued

VARIETY	1948 Rank	Times Rated	Total Points	Balanced Rating
6 Bryce Canyon '44	( 4)	254	2172	84.51
7 Master Charles '43	(10)	244	2112	84.20
8 Sable '38	( 7)	260	2179	83.87
9 Elmohr, DM; '42	( 8)	254	2119	82.44
10 Lady Mohr '44	(12)	250	2097	82.25
11 Blue Shimmer '42	( 9)	254	2109	82.05
12 Wabash, DM; '36	(11)	260	2129	81.82
13 Berkeley Gold '42	(13)	248	2071	81.54
14 Azure Skies '43	(15)	251	2078	81.32
15 Snow Flurry '39	(16)	252	2077	81.15
16 Amandine '46	(17)	216	1923	80.80
17 Cascade Splendor '45	(21)	205	1873	80.55
18 New Snow '46	(26)	217	1918	80.42
19 Pink Cameo '46	(22)	233	1979	80.30
20 Tiffanja '42	(24)	245	2023	80.11
21. Lady Boscawen '46	(27)	228	1952	80.00
22 Solid Mahogany '44	(29)	243	1999	79.48
23 Prairie Sunset, DM; '39	(20)	256	2019	78.24
24 Los Angeles '27	(19)	254	1970	76.66
25 Mulberry Rose '41	(14)	251	1944	76.08
26 Amigo '34	(18)	253	2006	75.87
27 Chantilly '45	(30)	239	1878	75.27
28 Blue Valley '47	(33)	213	1775	75.05
29 Dreamcastle '43	(32)	234	1852	74.97
30 Ranger '43	(23)	244	1863	74.31
31 The Admiral '41	(25)	249	1878	73.80
32 Garden Glory '43	(37)	202	1697	73.48
33 Casa Morena '43	(41)	239	1828	73.27
34 Cherie '47	(43)	222	1758	72.95
35 Rocket '45	(38)	217	1729	72.52
36 Chamois '44	(50)	243	1807	72.08
37 Grand Canyon '41	(28)	248	1825	71.84
38 Fair Elaine '38	(36)	255	1840	71.45
39 Katharine Fay '45	(35)	235	1761	71.16
40 Tobacco Road '42	(34)	250	1808	70.90
41 Extravaganza '46	(46)	230	1731	70.64
42 Black Forest '45	(39)	200	1613	70.14
43 Moonlight Madonna '43	(44)	245	1762	69.77
44 Violet Symphony '40	(47)	242	1743	69.46
45 Distance '46	(53)	210	1627	69.23
46 Goldbeater '44	(69)	225	1668	68.79
47 Spanish Peaks '47	(59)	176	1468	68.35
48 Golden Fleece '40	(41)	246	1724	68.13
49 Sylvia Murray '44	(62)	223	1643	68.02
50 Winter Carnival '41	(55)	236	1674	67.50
51 Treasure Island '37	(40)	220	1616	67.35
52 Spun Gold '40	(42)	222	1619	67.18
53 Bandmaster '44	(51)	205	1559	67.07
54 China Maid '36	(49)	256	1723	66.77
55 Minnie Colquitt '42	(45)	208	1560	66.66

## HUNDRED FAVORITES, Continued

VARIETY	1948 Rank	Times Rated	Total Points	Balanced Rating
56 Deep Velvet '39	(48)	216	1584	66.54
57 Desert Song '46	(88)	180	1460	66.37
58 Lothario '42	(102)	196	1507	66.10
59 Easter Bonnet '44	(111)	190	1485	66.00
60 Snow Carnival '42	(72)	195	1499	65.88
61 Cloth of Gold '45	(104)	188	1476	65.61
62 The Red Douglas, DM; '37	(57)	220	1441	65.44
63 Three Cheers '45	(122)	193	1479	65.30
64 City of Lincoln '36	(60)	218	1558	65.22
65 Arab Chief '44	(91)	190	1435	65.06
66 Golden Majesty '38	(63)	213	1536	64.96
67 Argus Pheasant '48	(118)	155	1345	64.81
68 Christabel '36	(66)	222	1558	64.64
69 Gloriole '33	(58)	218	1544	64.56
70. Cordovan '46	(138)	167	1376	64.44
71 Sharkskin '42	(74)	201	1547	64.31
72 Red Valor '36	(70)	210	1508	64.20
73 Firecracker '43	(56)	202	1482	64.14
74 Captain Wells '41	(64)	205	1488	64.01
75 Priscilla '42	(71)	200	1470	63.93
76 Three Oaks '43	(83)	193	1446	63.83
77 Lynn Langford '46	(78)	185	1419	63.76
78 Fantasy '47	(68)	192	1439	63.66
79 Spindrift '44	(61)	209	1490	63.53
80 Golden Treasure '36	(67)	238	1579	63.42
81 Matterhorn '38	(52)	224	1533	63.33
82 Gypsy '44	(89)	196	1441	63.21
83 Lake George '45	(106)	199	1550	63.16
84 Cloud Castle '44	(94)	204	1463	63.06
85 Remembrance '42	(54)	210	1478	62.88
86 Lord Dongan '40	(86)	202	1449	62.72
87 White Wedgewood '43	(73)	201	1442	62.55
88 Daybreak '41	(65)	212	1474	62.46
89 Shining Waters '33	(85)	244	1570	62.32
90 Missouri, DM; '33	(80)	248	1580	62.20
91 Junaluska '34	(82)	242	1557	62.02
92 Harriet Thoreau '44	(84)	196	1413	61.86
93 Mexico '43	(77)	208	1442	61.62
94 Elsa Sass '39	(76)	240	1535	61.40
95 Vatican Purple '43	(75)	203	1418	61.25
96 Mary Vernon '42	(97)	197	1392	60.90
97 Sierra Blue '32	(98)	244	1529	60.66
98 Ming Yellow '38	(95)	236	1498	60.42
99 Tiffany '38	(93)	197	1377	60.28
100 Nightfall '42	(81)	212	1420	60.16

The year number after each variety is the year of introduction

DM after the name of a variety indicates that it has won the Dykes Medal.



Not a great deal of comment on the results of the Tenth Symposium is necessary because the list of the Hundred Favorites speaks for itself. Seven varieties, namely: Lothario, Easter Bonnet, Cloth of Gold, Three Cheers, Argus Pheasant, Cordovan and Lake George, that were clamoring for admission to the first division last year, gained entrance this year and replaced *Gudrun*, *Ormohr*, *Old Parchment*, *Angelus*, *Golden Eagle*, *Lighthouse* and *Pink Reflection*, all of which moved gracefully to the second division. Of these, the four italicized were among the 96 favorites of 1940. The orderly effect of the balanced rating procedure of computing symposium ratings is well illustrated by the fact that, with the exception of Argus Pheasant, all newcomers to the first division have been eligible since 1946 and before.

In the second division of 50 reserve favorites there were twelve replacements from below. These were introductions of 1946, '47 and '48 and include Radiation, Rainbow Room, Esquire, Golden Ruffles, Staten Island, Red Torch, Carousel, Arcadia Buttercup, Lilac Lane, Rose Splendor, Brilliant Amber and Pretty Quadroon. They replaced *Cheerio*, *Miss California*, *Red Gleam*, *Golden Hind*, Storm King, *E. B. Williamson*, Mary E. Nicholls, Melitza, *Garden Magic*, *Morocco Rose*, *Radiant* and *Pink Ruffles*. Of these, the eight italicized varieties were numbered among the 96 favorite of 1940.

TABLE II—FIFTY ADDED FAVORITES  
OF THE TENTH SYMPOSIUM

VARIETY	1948 Rank	Times Rated	Total Points	Balanced Rating
101 The Capitol '44	(116)	187	1339	59.90
102 Suzette '45	(117)	180	1312	59.65
103 Black Banner '47	(101)	190	1340	59.55
104 Pierre Menard '48	(131)	165	1262	59.40
105 Indiana Night '42	(124)	200	1363	59.22
106 Frank Adams '37	(110)	210	1388	59.05
107 Ruth Pollock '39	(103)	224	1427	58.95
108 Snow Velvet '42	(108)	202	1359	58.81
109 Gudrun '30	(79)	216	1385	58.60
110 Tea Rose '44	(130)	185	1302	58.44
111 Misty Gold '43	(136)	188	1306	58.30
112 Majenica '41	(137)	196	1326	58.16
113 Pink Reflection '42	(100)	205	1348	57.99
114 Ormohr '37	(87)	218	1385	57.85
115 Golden Russet '46	(141)	182	1275	57.69
116 Jasmine '44	(150)	176	1254	57.40
117 California Peach '41	(144)	204	1332	57.40
118 Lake Breeze '45	(107)	187	1279	57.22
119 Melanie '41	(112)	208	1338	57.15
120 Brunhilde '34	(121)	212	1321	56.97
121 Old Parchment '39	(90)	215	1328	56.90

VARIETY	1948 Rank	Times Rated	Total Points	Balanced Rating
122 Prince of Orange '40	(133)	203	1315	56.81
123 Golden Eagle '42	(96)	206	1320	56.65
124 Mellowglow '42	(140)	182	1250	56.55
125 Lighthouse '38	(99)	222	1359	56.40
126 Brown Thrasher '41	(105)	216	1338	56.21
127 Balmung '39	(114)	209	1314	56.05
128 Garden Flame '41	(128)	196	1274	55.90
129 Stardom '41	(113)	214	1320	55.68
130 Louise Blake '43	(126)	194	1260	55.60
131 Radiation '48	(183)	178	1210	55.25
132 Angelus '37	(92)	205	1280	55.11
133 Sunset Serenade '43	(134)	195	1249	54.90
134 Rainbow Room '46	(189)	144	1114	54.67
135 Flora Zenor '42	(119)	210	1279	54.44
136 Esquire '46	(191)	142	1089	54.21
137 Golden Spike '40	(123)	200	1243	54.05
138 Arctic '40	(109)	218	1287	53.83
139 Golden Ruffles '45	(171)	160	1126	63.62
140 And Thou '42	(139)	184	1188	53.50
141 Staten Island '48	(191)	135	1054	53.35
142 Red Torch '47	(172)	180	1171	53.23
143 Carousel '48	(217)	147	1079	53.04
144 Louvois '36	(115)	210	1242	52.85
145 Arcadia Buttercup '47	(237)	124	1011	52.64
146 Lilac Lane '47	(204)	144	1059	52.42
147 Rose Splendor '47	(207)	146	1061	52.25
148 Brilliant Amber '47	(224)	140	1040	52.00
149 Pretty Quadroon '48	(197)	155	1074	51.78
150 Reward '42	(120)	197	1178	51.55

For the benefit of new judges and new members, the symposium system of selection and computation may be recapitulated. The selection procedure participated in by 260 judges was exactly the same as that of 1947 and 1948. The assignment of values to the classes selected by the judges was exactly the same as in 1948 and different in only one minor particular from that of 1947. The selection procedure was as follows:

1. Judges first examined the list of 300 eligible varieties and then crossed out all the varieties they did not know well enough to classify.
2. Judges then selected their hundred favorites from the remaining varieties known to them.
3. Judges then distributed their hundred favorites into five classes of 20 varieties each. In order of preference the classes were A, B, C, D and E, and the judges placed these letters against the names of the varieties they had selected and classified.
4. Judges then considered the remaining varieties known to them but not selected or classified and placed the letter P against the name of every iris that performed poorly for them.



5. Judges then reviewed their ballots and mailed them back for tabulation and computation.

The system by which the different classes were converted to numerical value was again as follows:

TABLE III—TENTH SYMPOSIUM SCORING SYSTEM

A	10	20
B	9	20
C	8	20
D	7	20
E	6	20
U	5	None
P	0	None

One of the judges of 1949 wrote that the computation of variety ratings by the balanced rating system was much like the proportional representation of government. Although the statement was not entirely accurate there are some degrees of similarity. It is considered unnecessary to repeat at length the basic principles of the balanced rating system, which in effect is a combination of the average rating and the par rating. The total number of points received by a variety, divided by the number of judges who voted for it, gives an average score that indicates that *those* judges thought about it but gives no measure at all of its true popularity in terms of the ratio of votes received to the total number of judges. On the other hand, the number of votes received, divided by the total number of voting judges, gives a precise measurement of its range of popularity, but nothing at all as to its relative standing in comparison with other varieties. Hence the need for combining the two measures to obtain a composite score that evaluates the degree to which a variety is known and the degree to which it is liked by those who know it.

There are several methods by which a balanced rating may be computed from a given set of values, but some are more complex than others. Perhaps the simplest method is to divide the total number of points received by a variety, by half the sum of the number of judges voting for a variety plus the total number of judges voting. This is a simplification of a somewhat longer formula but equally satisfactory. No matter what formula is used to obtain the balanced rating, the par score and the average score approach each other as the variety becomes better known and eventually become identical when the variety receives a vote from every judge.

There has been an increasing number of requests for an alphabetical listing of the favorites so that the rank and rating of a particular variety might be determined without so much search. There has also been a demand for a listing of the originators and introducers of the favorites. Since all this information seems to be compactly available nowhere else, it is here presented.

TABLE IV—THE FIRST HUNDRED AND FIFTY FAVORITES OF 1949

(Alphabetically Arranged)

VARIETY	1949 Rank	Originator	Year Regsd.	Introducer	Year Intrd.
Amandine	16	Douglas, G.	1944	Nesmith	1946
Amingo	26	Williamson	1933	Williamson	1934
And Thou	140	Graves	1939	Nesmith	1942
Angelus	132	Egelberg	1937	Schreiner	1937
Arab Chief	65	Whiting	1942	Whiting	1944
Arcadia Buttercup	145	Milliken	1947	Milliken	1947
Arctic	138	Kleinsorge	1940	Cooley	1940
Argus Pheasant	67	De Forest	1947	De Forest	1948
Azure Skies	14	Pattison	1943	Nesmith	1943
Balmung	127	Sass, H. P.	1939	Sass	1939
Bandmaster	53	Hall, D. F.	1943	Hall, D. F.	1944
Berkeley Gold	13	Salbach	1942	Salbach	1942
Black Banner	103	Nicholls	1942	Cooley	1947
Black Forest	42	Schreiner	1944	Schreiner	1945
Blue Rhythm	5	Whiting	1945	Whiting	1945
Blue Shimmer	11	Sass, Jacob	1941	Sass	1942
Blue Valley	28	Smith, K. D.	1945	Smith, K. D.	1947
Brilliant Amber	148	Salbach	1947	Salbach	1947
Brown Thrasher	126	Kirkland	1941	Vestal	1941
Brunhilde	120	Salbach	1934	Salbach	1934
Bryce Canyon	6	Kleinsorge	1944	Cooley	1944
California Peach	117	Salbach	1941	Salbach	1941
Captain Wells	74	Cook, Paul	1941	Williamson	1941
Carousel	143	Douglas, G.	1948	Nesmith	1948
Casa Morena	33	De Forest	1941	De Forest	1943
Cascade Splendor	17	Kleinsorge	1944	Cooley	1945
Chamois	36	Kleinsorge	1944	Cooley	1944
Chantilly	27	Hall, D. F.	1943	Hall, D. F.	1945
Cherie	34	Hall, D. F.	1945	Hall, D. F.	1947
China Maid	54	Milliken	1936	Milliken	1937
Chivalry, DM	3	Wills	1943	Nesmith	1944
Christabel	68	Lapham	1934	Gage	1936
City of Lincoln	64	Sass, H. P.	1935	Sass	1936
Cloth of Gold	61	Whiting	1945	Whiting	1945
Cloud Castle	84	Graves	1940	Nesmith	1944
Cordovan	70	Kleinsorge	1946	Cooley	1946
Daybreak	88	Kleinsorge	1941	Cooley	1941
Deep Velvet	56	Salbach	1939	Salbach	1939
Desert Song	57	Fay	1946	Fay	1946
Distance	45	Cook, Paul	1946	Williamson	1946
Dreamcastle	29	Cook, Paul	1943	Williamson	1943
Easter Bonnet	59	Maxwell-Norton	1943	Maxwell	1943
Elmohr, DM	9	Loomis	1942	Long, J. D.	1942
Elsa Sass	94	Sass, H. P.	1938	Sass	1939
Esquire	136	Lothrop	1944	Lothrop	1946
Extravaganza	41	Douglas, G	1943	Nesmith	1946
Fair Elaine	38	Mitchell	1937	Salbach	1938
Fantasy	78	Hall, D. F.	1944	Hall, D. F.	1947



VARIETY	1949 Rank	Originator	Year Regsd.	Introducer	Year Intrd.
Firecracker	73	Hall, D. F.	1941	Hall, D. F.	1943
Flora Zenor	135	Sass, Jacob	1941	Salbach	1942
Frank Adams	106	Lapham	1935	Gage	1937
Garden Flame	128	Sass, H. P.	1940	Schreiner	1941
Garden Glory	32	Whiting	1940	Whiting	1943
Gloriole	69	Gage	1932	Nesmith	1933
Goldbeater	46	Kleinsorge	1944	Cooley	1944
Golden Eagle	123	Hall, D. F.	1939	Hall, D. F.	1942
Golden Fleece	48	Sass, Jacob	1940	Whiting	1940
Golden Majesty	66	Salbach	1937	Salbach	1938
Golden Ruffles	139	Taylor, C. C.	1945	Taylor, C. C.	1945
Golden Russet	115	Hall, D. F.	1946	Hall, D. F.	1946
Golden Spike	137	Whiting	1940	Whiting	1940
Golden Treasure	80	Schreiner	1936	Schreiner	1936
Grand Canyon	37	Kleinsorge	1941	Cooley	1941
Great Lakes, DM	2	Cousins	1938	Cooley	1938
Gudrun	109	Dykes, K.	1931	Pattison	1938
Gypsy	82	Kleinsorge	1944	Cooley	1944
Harriet Thoreau	92	Cook, Paul	1944	Williamson	1944
Helen McGregor, DM	4	Graves	1942	Nesmith	1946
Indiana Night	105	Cook, Paul	1942	Williamson	1942
Jasmine	116	Grant	1943	Nesmith	1944
Junaluska	91	Kirkland	1931	Kirkland	1934
Katharine Fay	39	Fay	1943	Hall, D. F.	1945
Lady Boscawen	21	Graves	1942	Nesmith	1946
Lady Mohr	10	Salbach	1943	Salbach	1944
Lake Breeze	118	Fay	1944	Nesmith	1945
Lake George	83	Smith, K. D.	1943	Nesmith	1945
Lighthouse	125	Salbach	1935	Salbach	1936
Lilac Lane	146	Whiting	1946	Whiting	1947
Lord Dongan	86	Smith, K. D.	1940	Nesmith	1940
Los Angeles	24	Mohr-Mitchell	1927	Salbach	1927
Lothario	58	Schreiner	1942	Schreiner	1942
Louise Blake	130	Smith, K. D.	1942	Nesmith	1943
Louvois	144	Cayeux	1936	Wassenberg	1938
Lynn Langford	77	Hall, D. F.	1945	Hall, D. F.	1946
Majenica	112	Cook, Paul	1941	Williamson	1941
Mary Vernon	96	McKee	1942	Nesmith	1942
Master Charles	7	Williamson	1943	Williamson	1943
Matterhorn	81	Sass, Jacob	1938	Schreiner	1938
Melanie	119	Hill, Howard	1941	Hill, Howard	1941
Mellowglow	124	Whiting	1940	Whiting	1942
Mexico	93	Kleinsorge	1943	Cooley	1943
Ming Yellow	98	Glutzbeck	1937	Pattison	1938
Minnie Colquitt	55	Sass, H. P.	1941	Sass	1941
Missouri, DM	90	Grinter	1932	Pattison	1933
Misty Gold	111	Schreiner	1943	Schreiner	1943
Moonlight Madonna	43	Sass, Jacob	1942	Sass	1943
Mulberry Rose	25	Schreiner	1941	Schreiner	1941
New Snow	18	Fay	1945	Fay	1946
Nightfall	100	Hall, D. F.	1942	Hall, D. F.	1942

VARIETY	1949 Rank	Originator	Year Regsd.	Introducer	Year Intrd.
Ola Kala, DM	1	Sass, Jacob	1942	Sass	1943
Old Parchment	121	Kleinsorge	1939	Cooley	1939
Ormohr	114	Kleinsorge	1937	Cooley	1937
Pierre Menard	104	Faught	1946	Schroeder	1948
Pink Cameo	19	Fay	1944	Schreiner	1946
Pink Reflection	113	Cook, Paul	1942	Williamson	1942
Prairie Sunset, DM	23	Sass, H. P.	1936	Sass	1939
Pretty Quadroon	149	Kleinsorge	1948	Cooley	1948
Prince of Orange	122	Kleinsorge	1940	Cooley	1940
Priscilla	75	Whiting	1940	Whiting	1942
Radiation	131	Hall, D. F.	1946	Hall, D. F.	1948
Rainbow Room	134	Sass, Jacob	1945	Sass	1946
Ranger	30	Kleinsorge	1943	Cooley	1943
Red Torch	142	Sass, H. P.	1945	Sass-Whiting	1947
Red Valor	72	Nicholls	1938	Nicholls	1939
Reward	150	Cook, Paul	1942	Williamson	1942
Remembrance	85	Hall, D. F.	1941	Hall, D. F.	1942
Rocket	35	Whiting	1945	Whiting	1945
Rose Splendor	147	Kleinsorge	1947	Cooley	1947
Ruth Pollock	107	Sass, H. P.	1939	Sass	1939
Sable	8	Cook, Paul	1936	Williamson	1938
Sharkskin	71	Douglas, G.	1942	Nesmith	1942
Shining Waters	89	Essig	1930	Milliken	1933
Sierra Blue, DM	97	Essig	1930	Milliken	1932
Snow Carnival	60	Graves	1940	Nesmith	1942
Snow Flurry	15	Rees	1939	Salbach	1939
Snow Velvet	108	Sass, H. P.	1941	Sass	1942
Spanish Peaks	47	Loomis	1946	Lincoln	1947
Spindrift	79	Loomis	1929	Schreiner	1944
Spun Gold, DM	52	Glutzbeck	1939	Schreiner	1940
Solid Mahogany	22	Sass, Jacob	1943	Sass	1944
Stardom	129	Hall, D. F.	1941	Hall, D. F.	1941
Staten Island	141	Smith, K. D.	1947	Smith, K. D.	1948
Sunset Serenade	133	Sass, Jacob	1941	Sass	1943
Suzette	102	Knowlton	1943	Nesmith	1945
Sylvia Murray	49	Norton	1943	Maxwell	1944
Tea Rose	110	Whiting	1942	Whiting	1944
The Admiral	31	Hall, D. F.	1938	Hall, D. F.	1941
The Capitol	101	Maxwell	1944	Maxwell	1944
The Red Douglas, DM	62	Sass, Jacob	1934	Sass	1937
Three Cheers	63	Cook, Paul	1945	Williamson	1945
Three Oaks	76	Whiting	1940	Whiting	1943
Tiffanja	20	De Forest	1942	De Forest	1942
Tiffany	99	Sass, H. P.	1931	Sass	1938
Tobacco Road	40	Kleinsorge	1941	Cooley	1942
Treasure Island	51	Kleinsorge	1937	Cooley	1937
Vatican Purple	95	Whiting	1940	Whiting	1943
Violet Symphony	44	Smith, K. D.	1939	Nesmith	1940
Wabash, DM	12	Williamson	1936	Williamson	1936
White Wedgewood	87	Grant	1942	Nesmith	1943
Winter Carnival	50	Schreiner	1941	Schreiner	1941



Note: Iris originators and introducers are urged to check the foregoing list with their records. If any of the data are found to be in error please advise the Registrar-Recorder so that the permanent record may be corrected. In regard to the introduction date of the new varieties, now usually listed by most dealers together with the name of the originator, it is suggested that henceforth, dealers indicate in some way the varieties they themselves have introduced. The date of registration is not important for catalog purposes but the date of introduction, the originator, and the introducer are useful items of information.

REGIONAL PERFORMANCE

This relates to the performance of judges, not irises. For the information of Regional Vice-Presidents and members a detailed statement of the performance of judges by regions is again presented. Region 18, comprising the states of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska, again ranked as the dominant region, casting 51 votes in the Symposium, or 19.6% of the 260-vote total. Together with regions 1, 6, 9 and 15, almost one-half of the total votes cast were thus accounted for. Region 18 has now been partitioned at the request of its members, into Regions 18 and 21, beginning with 1950.

TABLE V—TENTH SYMPOSIUM REGIONAL PARTICIPATION

Region	Number of Judges	Judges Voting	Voting Percentage	Voting Rank
1	30	23	76.66	5
2	8	2	25.00	19
3	15	9	60.00	11
4	17	9	52.94	13
5	16	11	68.75	8
6	22	17	77.27	4
7	29	15	51.72	15
8	6	2	33.33	18
9	25	17	68.00	9
10	12	3	25.00	20
11	11	8	72.72	6
12	18	13	72.22	7
13	25	13	52.00	14
14	13	8	61.54	10
15	23	21	91.30	1
16	20	9	45.00	17
17	33	16	48.48	16
18	62	51	82.26	2
19	11	6	54.54	12
20	9	7	77.77	3
	<hr/> 405	<hr/> 260	<hr/> 64.20	

The number of judges accredited to a region is limited to ten per cent of the membership of that region. The first and foremost duty of a judge is to participate in the two principal events of the AIS, namely: the Awards and Honors Competition, and the Official Symposium. Judges who for two years fail to participate in these two events are replaced. On the basis of the above participation record some regions have more accredited judges than they need and others do not have enough. Likewise, the lists of accredited judges submitted by Regional Vice-Presidents for 1950 will apparently include several new names in some regions.

Of particular interest was the performance of Region 18, where the efforts of the RVP and his local chairmen were successful in bringing out the vote of 51 of the 62 accredited judges, for a score of 82.26, which was second only to Region 15, where 21 out of 23 judges voted, for a top score of 91.30, thereby leading for the third year in succession.

For the Symposium as a whole, new records were made, with 260 returns from 405 judges, a voting average of 64.20, as compared with 186 votes from 365 judges in 1949 for a score of 50.95 in the Ninth Symposium.

It is neither an easy nor a brief task for a judge to participate in the judging of a popularity contest with 300 eligible entrants. The fact that 260 or nearly two-thirds of the 405 accredited judges took the time and went to the trouble of casting their ballots in the Tenth Symposium certainly leads to the conclusion that as a determiner of popularity, the Official Symposium now ranks as perhaps the most important in American horticulture.

## **Announcing**

### **The Iris Hall of Fame**

The history of the iris, like that of the human race, has been one of steady development and improvement. Human history is full of the names of great men and women who have made it. Iris history also has its great names like Kashmir White, Conquistador, Dauntless, Rameses, Purissima, Wm. Mohr and many others, but they are not as yet recorded in the halls of fame as are those of human leaders. Except for the list of Dykes Medalists, irisdom has no real Honor Roll. The Dykes Medalists may be compared to the kings and presidents, admirals and generals, who helped make history; but in iris history we have no boy at the dike, no Cellini, no Columbus, no Shakespeare, no Lady Godiva or Lydia Pinkham, no Daniel Boone



no Edison, no Einstein, nor any of those whose truly great roles in history are overshadowed by the Alexanders, Caesars, Napoleons, Victorias and Washingtons. This limited recognition of many fine irises is the reason for the establishment of the Iris Hall of Fame.

The idea of a Hall of Fame for irises seems to have originated with Louise Blake, lovely iris lady of Spartanburg, South Carolina, who has maintained her own Hall of Fame for fine irises for many years in her beautiful gardens at Three Oaks. The idea of permanently honoring the irises that are especially distinguished by the Symposium has come from many judges and has been under consideration for the past two years. Ten full years of Symposium progress and steadily advancing acceptance have now combined to justify the use of Symposium results as the principal basis of election to the Iris Hall of Fame, which as the name implies, will be a select and very limited group of irises of outstanding and exceptional popularity.

An iris may attain the Iris Hall of Fame only by being:

1. *The favorite iris of the year; that is, the top ranking variety of an annual Symposium, or—*
2. *One of the Hundred Favorites for ten years as determined by uniform computation procedure, or—*
3. *One of not more than two irises which may be elected yearly by the AIS Board of Directors on the specific recommendation of the Committee on Awards.*

It will be seen that the requirements for election to the Iris Hall of Fame are so rigorous that crowding is very unlikely. The Hall of Fame by reason of these requirements will be composed principally of varieties more than ten years old that have proved their general excellence throughout the United States. Being older iris, they will be relatively inexpensive and hence a splendid group for iris beginners to grow and study.

The Iris Hall of Fame, with due acknowledgement to Louise Blake, is established as of January 1, 1950. The varieties qualifying as charter members of the Hall of Fame, based on the first ten years of the Symposium are as listed below. It is important to note that the Iris Hall of Fame is by no means limited to the "generals and admirals" or to the "first team." In it will be found good "sergeants and seamen" and good solid members of the "second team" as well as those who "also served." In other words, dependability and consistent performance as indicated by long continued popularity are just

as important attributes of fame as are sensational prominence and conspicuous rank. As in the case with other high honors, attainment of the Hall of Fame permanently establishes the proud record of an illustrious iris and lifts it from further competition in the field in which its honors were won.

THE IRIS HALL OF FAME

Roster of Distinguished Irises, January 1, 1950

VARIETY	CITATION	HALL OF FAME RATING
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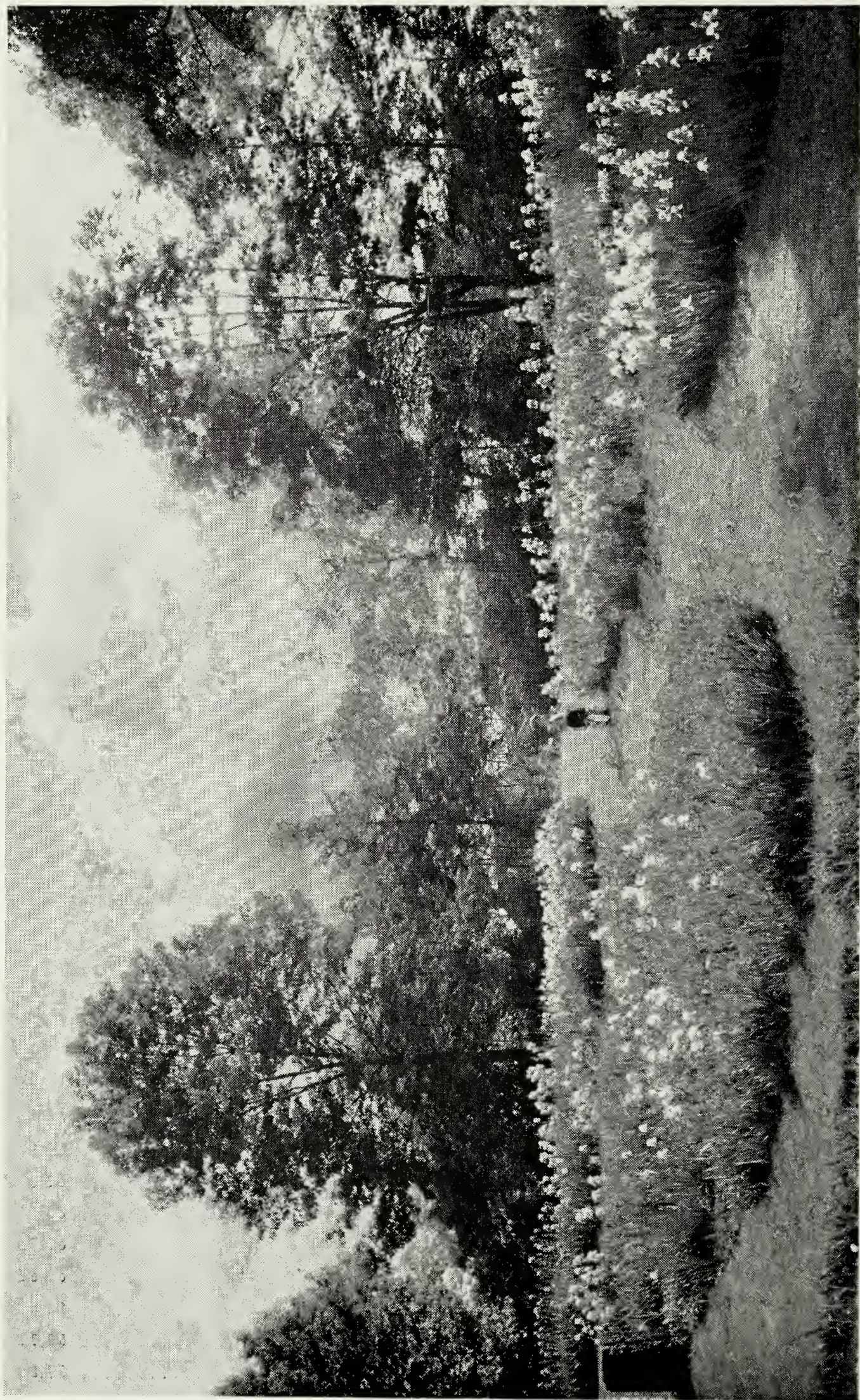
I. As A Symposium Leader

Wabash, DM	1940, 1941, 1942 Williamson, '36	Williamson, '36 ..... 82.78
Great Lakes, DM	1943, 1944, 1945, 1946 Cousins, '38	Cooley, '38 ..... 89.37
Ola Kala, DM	1947, 1948, 1949 Jacob Sass, '42	Sass, '43 ..... 85.87

II. As A Ten Year Symposium Favorite

1 Great Lakes, DM	Cousins, '38	Cooley, '38 ..... 89.37
2 Wabash, DM	Williamson, '36	Williamson, '36 ..... 82.78
3 Sable, AM	Paul Cook, '36	Williamson, '38 ..... 81.80
4 Amigo, AM	Williamson, '33	Williamson, '34 ..... 77.63
5 Prairie Sunset, DM	H. P. Sass, '36	Sass, '39 ..... 77.34
6 Fair Elaine, AM	Mitchell, '37	Salbach, '38 ..... 71.86
7 City of Lincoln, AM	H. P. Sass, '35	Sass, '36 ..... 70.56
8 Los Angeles, AM	Mohr-Mitchell, '27	Salbach, '27 ..... 69.20
9 Golden Majesty, AM	Salbach, '37	Salbach, '38 ..... 68.86
10 China Maid, AM	Milliken, '36	Milliken, '37 ..... 68.22
11 The Red Douglas DM	Jacob Sass, '34	Sass, '37 ..... 67.82
12 Golden Treasure AM	Schreiner, '36	Schreiner, '36 ..... 66.00
13 Christabel, AM	Lapham, '34	Gage, '36 ..... 64.84
14 Gloriole, AM	Gage, '32	Nesmith, '33 ..... 64.32
15 Shining Waters, AM	Essig, '30	Milliken, '33 ..... 63.92
16 Elsa Sass, AM	H. P. Sass '38	Sass, '39 ..... 62.87
17 Missouri, AM	Grinter, '32	Pattison, '33 ..... 62.85
18 Matterhorn, AM	Jacob Sass, '38	Schreiner, '38 ..... 62.76
19 Junaluska, AM	Kirkland, '31	Kirkland, '34 ..... 62.62
20 Sierra Blue, DM	Essig, '30	Milliken, '32 ..... 58.80
21 Treasure Island, AM	Kleinsorge, '37	Cooley, '37 ..... 58.22
22 Tiffany, AM	H. P. Sass, '31	Sass, '38 ..... 57.85





Harold G. Morse photo



# The Cedarbrook Park Iris Garden

## Plainfield, New Jersey

JOHN C. WISTER, (PENNA.)

The March, 1936, BULLETIN contained some notes about the iris garden in Plainfield, N.J. It seems now proper not only to bring this information there published up to date, but to inform the many new members of the Society of the experience of this fine public garden.

The garden owes its existence to the fact that one public spirited member of the Society, Miss Harriette R. Halloway, of Plainfield, believed it ought to exist. She took up the matter with the commissioners of the Union County Park System and after interesting them secured also the co-operation of the Plainfield Garden Club.

Cedarbrook Park was planned by the famous firm of Olmsted. It has attractive drives, fields, woods and streams and is visited by great numbers of people.

The iris garden is a distinct feature of the park and is framed with fine shrubs and trees. One portion of it on sloping ground can be seen from the main roadway of the park. The garden was originally planted under the direction of Miss Halloway with the official co-operation of the AIS and of the Plainfield Garden Club. Mrs. Wheeler H. Peckham and Dr. George M. Reed helped greatly with the work.

Unlike most public iris plantings which feature bearded iris only, many other types are included. In late March varieties of the reticulata section are in bloom. Then there come dwarf bearded varieties, oncocyclus and pogocyclus, crested iris, intermediates and tall bearded, sibericas and spurias, Louisiana species and finally kaempferis which last into July. It is a long season filled with continuous bloom.

During the season, members of the AIS and of the Plainfield Garden Club are present on various days, especially Saturdays and Sundays, to answer questions and give information about soil and culture.

The recent Park Department pamphlet states that the garden has over 1,300 named varieties and over 100,000 plants. The great bulk of the plants are of course older varieties of bearded iris, massed for color effect, whole beds being given to one color. It is this color effect, of course, which catches the eyes of most visitors, but many serious gardeners come to study varieties and to learn how to use them to best effect.



Some of the earlier types have bloomed and gone from this pleasant slope in Cedarbrook Park, but the tall beardeds carry on beautifully when their turn comes.



In this co-operative effort the Park Commission has supplied the necessary land and background, the labor and the fertilizers. The Plainfield Garden Club and various individuals have given money to buy plants and various members of the AIS have given plants. Miss Halloway has supervised all the planting and the necessary dividing, re-soiling and resetting. Surplus plants have been sent to the Park Commission nurseries for color planting in other parks.

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### BLOOM CALENDAR

For the guidance of visitors who wish to see the many types of irises on display at Cedarbrook Park, Plainfield, N.J., the following average blooming dates are given.

Late March and early April.....	A few Bulbous varieties and Junos.
Late April and early May.....	Masses of Dwarf Bearded.
May 10 or 15 to 15 or 20.....	Intermediate Bearded, Crested, Siberian, Oncocyclus and Hybrids; a few early Tall Bearded. No mass color at this time but the greatest number of different types in bloom.
May 20 to 25.....	Greatest number of Tall Bearded and Siberian.
May 25 to 30.....	Best mass color effect—mostly old varieties of Tall Bearded.
Early to mid-June .....	Species and Hybrids.
Late June and early July.....	Japanese varieties.

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The great fault of the bearded iris for park use is its need of frequent transplanting, an expensive item in these days of high labor costs. It is good therefore to have this garden providing for park superintendents a lesson in the usefulness of other iris like the sibericas and the spurias. It also means much to the horticulture of the surrounding community to have good varieties of iris, properly labeled, shown in a public place where all may see them.

I am quite well aware that members of our Society prefer to visit the gardens of specialists to see the newest things. That is right and proper for *our* members. But those who aren't members (I am sure there are 100 growers of iris for every member. They never heard of the AIS or of the specialists' gardens; they couldn't travel to them or would be afraid to butt in) can come here and learn. These persons are the best possible source for literally hundreds of new members every year. In fact it is from them that the future growth of our Society must come.

That is why (among many other reasons) that I find public gardens important and why I hope the members of the Society will encourage this garden and others like it. Let there be more of them and more power to them.





Spacious green lawns, beautiful shrubbery and fine old shade trees provide an ideal setting for Plainfield's iris garden. Toward the end of May sheets of colorful bloom spread over the beds of tall bearded varieties. This picture, made by Mr. Russell E. Prentiss, shows the lower part of the center section of tall bearded.

## NOTED IN CALIFORNIA

Spanish Peaks (Loomis)—A lovely, tall, well shaped white, with fine branching, that steps away out in front in a field that has advanced rapidly toward perfection. While in Mrs. Pollock's garden I spent some time trying to decide which white of all I would really prefer to have but when I saw this I hesitated no longer. Spanish Peaks for me.

Berkeley Blue (Salbach)—This blue surprised me as it hasn't had much notice and I believe it to be tender (which may account for the lack of notoriety), but its approach to perfection would make it worth giving protection. The flowers are huge and very well formed with fine substance. A very fine blue that should receive more notice. And it sets seed with ease.

Chamois (Kleinsorge)—What an iris! It is certainly an ideal mixer and the quiet beauty of this helps tone down some of the louder neighbors. Its texture leaves nothing to be desired. This is one of the very few tan blends that failed to burn in the sun here in my garden.

Sharon Kay (DeForest)—A huge lavender-toned pink that attracted a lot of attention in my garden. Its color and shape are outstanding in this color range.

California Rose (Salbach)—I like this as it opens but it does fade rather quickly without some protection where the sun is apt to be hot. Its height and branching for me on a one-year stalk were very good and I consider it worth giving a protection from the mid-day sun.—*Mrs. George Storman, St. Helena, Calif.*



# 1950 ANNUAL MEETING

**May 28, 29, 30—Sioux City, Iowa**

American Iris Society members in Sioux City and Mapleton, Iowa, and Omaha, Nebraska, cordially invite you to be their guests at the Society's 1950 Annual Meeting in Sioux City on May 28, 29 and 30.

The Annual Meeting Committee has planned a splendid three-day program which will include tours to the noted Sass garden at Omaha, the famous Whiting garden in Mapleton, and various outstanding gardens in Sioux City.

The schedule calls for a 7:30 A.M. bus departure on the first day, so it will be necessary for those attending to arrive the afternoon or evening of May 27 for registration. As we've noticed that most Annual Meeting visitors do arrive the day before the program starts, we've planned a "Howdy" party for the evening of the 27th at the Martin Hotel, from 7:30 to 11:00 P.M. This will be an informal get-together and an opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones. The full schedule follows:

**SUNDAY, MAY 28**—Breakfast served at the Martin Hotel and Younker's Tea Room, 6:30-7:15 A.M. Busses leave for the Sass garden, Omaha, at 7:30. Luncheon will be served at the Sass garden. Other gardens in Omaha and perhaps Council Bluffs, Iowa, will be visited. Busses will return to Sioux City in time for the Smorgasbord at the Mayfair Hotel, which will be served from 5:00 to 8:00 P.M. This will allow time for the Regional Vice-Presidents' meeting at 5:00 and the Directors' meeting at 8:00.

**MONDAY, MAY 29**—(Sioux City Day) Breakfast at the Martin Hotel and Younker's Tea Room, 6:45 to 7:45 A.M. Some of the Sioux City gardens to be visited are those of Chester Tompkins (Fleur-de-Lis Gardens), Dr. and Mrs. J. E. Dvorak, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph E. Ricker, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Emery, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Slothower, Mr. George Dubes, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. Donley Ronish, Miss Hanson Currier, Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Weander and Mrs. Mabel Framke. Luncheon at the Martin Hotel. Annual Banquet, 7:00 P.M., Sioux City's new Auditorium. We are expecting Mr. and Mrs. Harry J. Randall, Surrey, England, as our special guests. Mr. Randall, President of The Iris Society (England), will be principal speaker at the banquet.

**TUESDAY, MAY 30**—Breakfast served at the Mayfair Hotel, 6:45 to 7:45 A.M. Busses leave at 8:00 A.M. for a number of additional Sioux City gardens before proceeding to Mapleton for a visit to the garden





Photo courtesy Sioux City Chamber of Commerce

### SIOUX CITY—1950 Mecca for Irisarians

of Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Whiting. Luncheon in Mapleton. Busses will return to Sioux City in time for train connections.

#### MAKE RESERVATIONS NOW!

The registration fee will be \$20.00, including complete bus transportation, breakfast, luncheons, Smorgasbord and banquet. Hotel reservations should be made before March 15. Write at once to Mrs. Ralph E. Ricker, Chairman, 1516 Ross St., Sioux City, Iowa, and state the accommodations desired. The Martin Hotel will be headquarters, and other nearby hotels are the Warrior, the Mayfair, the West and the Jackson.

A committee will meet all trains and planes (provided notification of plane arrival time is given) on May 27. Visitors will be taken by automobile to the Martin Hotel for registration.

As a final reminder: Be sure to reach Sioux City on the afternoon or evening of May 27 for registration and the "Howdy" party.

—1950 Annual Meeting Committee  
Sioux City, Iowa



# Coming Events Cast Their Shadows

MRS. LEO F. REYNOLDS, (TENN.)

You have heard a lot about the Annal Meeting that was. But I'm going to try to give you a little foretaste of the meeting that is to be—in 1950. I know, because I have heard reports, that the Oregon meeting was one to shoot at. And right here let me say, though I was born in Kentucky and raised in Kansas City and live in Memphis, that I have never seen a more beautiful state than Oregon. And the fruits they grow——!!! And how I hated to miss the meeting!

To appease me for such a disappointment my husband took me over the ground the lucky ones of you will travel this spring. Sickness prevented our starting in time to go by St. Louis, to my great regret, as Mr. W. F. Scott, Jr., had been kind enough to arrange a trip there for me, even to a beautiful map. We were in Kansas City a week and while there we drove up to Atchison to see Father Kinish's garden at St. Benedict's College for boys. In the fashion of so many iris treks it rained all the time we were there. I do not see how there could ever be a more beautiful place than St. Benedict's College and the Monastery, there on those beautiful green, wooded hills overlooking the river. Like most of us, Father David Kinish has two gardens—one where he plows and one where the planting is for effect. Our iris gardens remind me of a little French girl who used to live across the street from us when I was a child. She said she always carried two handkerchiefs, a "show-er" pinned on her dress and a "blow-er" in her pocket. But almost always our "blow-er" gardens contain some of our finest irises.

We waded mud and wore raincoats and the rain washed my notes off as fast as I made them. But that didn't keep me from getting all the data on 48-15 which I liked better than any other seedling I saw on the trip and as well as any I have ever seen. It is a beautiful large ruffled blue—a big, fine, rounded flower with falls at just the right angle, good branching and substance. I was standing in the rain and looking at a perfect flower in the pouring rain, that Father David said had been in bloom three days already. Would that be substance? The color was several shades lighter than Chivalry and contained a little more violet. 48-15 is a cross between (Ann Page X Theodolinda) and Violet Symphony.

There was a gentleman in the garden busily making notes, but he was finally rained out. Then we persuaded Father David to go with us to the Schirmer gardens in St. Joseph. He wasn't too hard to persuade.

Carl Schirmer has made splendid use of a back yard that otherwise would be a liability. About half-way of his lot—twenty or thirty feet from his back porch—the ground starts up and continues almost straight up to the street behind. His iris garden starts at the bottom of the incline and is arranged in terraces all the way up. The top terrace—a little wider than the others—contains the rose garden in front of an iron boundary fence. I needn't tell you how lovely this is.

It was pleasant having Father David with us, as he spends so much time in the Schirmer gardens that he could show us all the high points—possibly some that Mr. Schirmer might have overlooked himself.

Mr. Schirmer had a great many iris of other growers that I was glad to see. N. J. Thomas which is a bluer Elmohr; Red Torch, that grows so beautifully up in that country and which I have heard so many complaints about down here in Memphis; Ave Maria, showing weather damage; Copper Glow, pretty but not too good; Lamplit Hour, attractive yellow bicolor; La Golondrina was a fair blue on the order of Gallantry; Francelia—a distinctly good intense yellow; Mt. Hermon—poor substance white; Cordovan—good blend; Dreamcastle, lovely as usual; Rainbow Room, that I can easily live without though it's good if you like those colors; Marathon was a beautiful blend; Honey-flow, a blend with yellow spilling out of its heart that leaves me with a haunting desire to possess it. Stag-at-Eve was an attractive, pretty blend. Rosetop was beautiful and blooming at the same time these other irises were, though it is so late here. (I've been coddling mine for three years and the first bloomstalk froze off last year.) I liked Gypsy very much; it is so colorful. Carlsbad Caverns was an appealing yellow-and-cream affair. Winston Churchill was not more beautiful than its godfather. And I wish Geddes Douglas could see his Extravaganza blooming up in that Middle West country. The top is white and the falls so iridescent—like the purple you see on a wild duck's plumage. It was also blooming along with the other iris. Redward was a delectable red.

In my opinion, the finest thing the Schirmers have introduced so far is Dr. Schirmer's Imperial Pomp. It is a splendid deep purple flower. The unusual and attractive part of it is that the tip of the beard is purple also. It gives quite an interesting effect. Bright Wings is a beautifully ruffled light pink blend. It has good substance because I saw and admired it at Father Kinish's garden when it was pouring rain. I didn't care at all for Paint Pot but liked Rose of Heaven very much. It would be pretty planted with Bright Wings as it is deeper in color.

H. W. Schirmer has a most beautiful seedling—it is a Snow Flurry seedling that, I am told, was crossed with a seedling so old that Dr. Schirmer no longer has it nor can he remember its parentage. The



branching on this iris is poor as you'd expect from a child of Snow Flurry, but that didn't bother Snow Flurry much, and this 14A is twice as large as Snow Flurry. Much more ruffled! And is flushed at the heart with color that is both pink and blue. It is an iris that is very much alive and glowing. Carl Schirmer has a white that was a cross between Snow Flurry and Katherine Fay that has substance reminding you of a magnolia petal. But it was very white and chaste and cold. Beautiful but cold.

Of course, I could go on with this garden indefinitely, but I must mention the seedlings I like so much from Angelus. Not one was unattractive but some had poor branching. All were the butterfly type of flower that lends life to a planting. Not all of these were Carl Schirmer's. Some were at Dr. Schirmer's, whose hill slopes away from his house and on down beyond to where Carl Schirmer has his large "plowing" garden.

We went back by these Schirmer gardens the following week on our way to Omaha. Our one regret was that the weather was threatening and we got away too late to go back to Father Kinish's. He was doing such interesting work. I'm planning to grow Glory, Mary Chilotilde, Sara Kinish, Violin, Silver Lake, Ptarmigan and a number of seedlings. Then I can examine them closely at my leisure and not be interrupted by my family thrusting rain coats and advice at me while I'm trying to absorb knowledge and beauty.

After our rather thorough browsing of the Schirmers' gardens we drove into Omaha. I hope just as many of you as possible are going to that meeting this year. If you don't see any *iris* you like you will be repaid in seeing the Midwest farms. No wonder that country is the bread basket of America. It is all the most beautiful rolling country with soil as rich and black as pure leaf mold. Small wonder things GROW. The finest of these farms we saw belongs to the Sasses—720 acres of it! Henry Sass has ten acres of iris, peonies and hemerocallis. Take comfortable walking shoes. You won't want to miss more than you can help.

#### A MASTER PAINTER WITH CHROMOSOMES AND GENES

You find artists everywhere. Some paint with oils, some "sculpt," but Henry Sass does his work with chromosomes and genes. Personally, I think some of his "pictures" far outstrip most of those I've seen on canvas. And you can see them over and over again. For too brief a period? No! Familiarity breeds contempt, and all real beauty is evanescent. Autumn's glory would look sad in the spring and spring's delicacy and fragility would be smothered in the blaze of fall. I don't

want to prolong my iris season too long. It is a part of the pageant of spring and fits into the picture then better than any other time. It takes a strong, brilliant flower like a chrysanthemum to have personality to fit into the autumn scene.

But to get back to Sass's iris garden. The first thing I saw and fell in love with was Pretty Pansy. I don't know if it would be classed as a "fancy" or not but I was very much taken with it. And it was the most "different" pretty iris I ever saw. Then we tramped and we tramped and saw probably a hundred more or less like it. By that time I was fed up on the type. I still like it, though, and some day I am going to get it and plant it where it will make a clump with a shrubby background and I think it will be breath-taking. It really is a beautiful combination of pansy blue and white. Cuban Carnival is a similar one in red-purple and yellow tones that truly does *all* the wrong things to me. I thought that Ebony Queen was one of the best of the dark irises.

Mattie Gates is one of the loveliest irises I've ever seen. I'd give a lot to be able to grow it and Elsa Sass, Golden Fleece and Moonlight Madonna as well as they do there. But, as they say, their iris are mostly of variegata origin and don't do so well in the South. But I will likely keep trying them. Jake is still an outstanding white—at a moderate price, too; and it does well here. The same is true of Lake Huron and it is still one of the BLUEST blues. Miss Bishop, white flushed lemon yellow, is a lovely iris. Sass's red and black Douglasses are still most satisfactory and beautiful iris.

New Era is undoubtedly a step forward. How these Sasses do step out at the head of the parade! But it is an iris you would buy for breeding, not garden decoration. It is like the flamigo pinks—it's a step in the right direction and will undoubtedly lead to some wonderful things.

I saw Marx's Blumohr. It is a perfect thing, in my way of thinking. Marx calls it blue but I call it the color of the familiar Cattleya orchid. It is flushed with the same deeper color. I'd say it was the best Mohr until now that I have seen, if it performs as well as it looks. I could go on and on for hours and hours of the beautiful things I saw but it takes space to tell ten acres worth. After we finished, or should I say "gave up," here, we drove on to Sioux City. Mrs. Ralph Ricker and her sister, Vera Ludden, had met us in Omaha to do the Sass gardens, so they drove back with us that night to Sioux City.

The next morning we had breakfast and went down to Mrs. Ricker's. We spent the morning in her garden. She has a small yard but a great many fine iris that are very well grown. It was a pleasure just to *sit* and study the newer iris. We took lunch with Mrs. Ricker and then in the afternoon we visited Mr. W. S. Snyder's gardens. He is a courtly,



kind, very generous gentleman. I bought his new Eligible. It is a velvety red—good, with fair branching. It will make a beautiful garden clump. Of course, with my predilection for blues and purples, I really liked Captain Royal better. It's a nice, round, large, slightly ruffled bitone purple flower.

He has a new seedling 1U-4314 that he had planned to name Kermess. However, Mrs. Ricker writes me that he has had to change the name as Kermess was already taken. It's a very large flower that I have described in my notebook thus: "Large, rose-violet tinted, slightly muted, but with a bright sheen—ruffled—very good looking."

Of course Bright Melody was lovely and bright as usual. It's an iris that I think should have the Dykes some day. I haven't seen another of the same color, and if it thrives and blooms everywhere as it does in our locality it has great merit.

We saw many iris growing well in this garden. Tompkin's Tunisian Gold—burnished on the hafts and with a deep orangy-yellow beard. It was very well branched, Bisque—a yellowish plicata with brown "plicata-ing." Rather nice. Red Amber had good branching but had some striation and was inclined to be floppy. Mrs. Lowry's Aberdeen was a light, airy, yet warm, deep tan blend. Churchill was an ugly red for my book.

The remarkable thing about it to me was that he had irises growing thick on every available space but they were growing beautifully and as free of disease as we saw anywhere.

We returned then to Mrs. Ricker's garden and spent an hour or two sitting and looking at the flowers. They were well grown and beautifully arranged. There's lots to be said for a small garden, if the iris are well grown. (And my feet gently murmur, We'll say there is.)

Here I met Sioux City Sue for the first time. She makes a lovely bright small clump with excellent garden value. Grace Ballard, salmon flushed yellow, though an older iris that we seem to have overlooked, was also excellent in the garden. Tompkin's Coronado was a good large deep yellow of fine substance. Vision of Mirza was lots better looking than I expected to find it from the descriptions I'd read. It looked well in a garden. Orangeman, with flowers shaped on the order of Ranger, was a handsome orange flower. Mrs. Silas Waters was one of the prettiest (pale, greenish yellow) yellows I've seen for landscaping work. The falls were long and would have been strappy except that they folded upwards on each corner. It gave the effect of a group of fluttering yellow birds. Quite different and intriguing. I didn't like Tapestry Rose. Grand Canyon was very brilliant and pretty. It is so dull with us that I had always wondered how it rated.

I want to know where Mrs. Whiting's Gilt Edge has been all this

time. That iris, on the Golden Fleece pattern, is a knock-out. It is queer how many really fine iris chance to miss the fame they deserve.

I can't go into all you'll see in Mrs. Ricker's yard but there were Black Banner, Amandine, Burmese Gold, Franconia, Mt. Timp, Ebony Queen, Red Torch (and let me pause here to say that while it does poorly in this part of the South it is one fine glowing red in all the gardens I saw in the Midwest), Lady Boscawen, Blue Valley, Lake George and many, many more. I think you will find you can see more representative iris there with less effort than in any other garden you will visit.

#### AND STILL MORE IRIS—IN SIOUX CITY

On Saturday we were joined by Mr. George Evans (Engineer in charge of building the new Missouri River dam at Pickstown, South Dakota) and his wife, also his assistant, Mr. Charles Brown, with his wife and daughter. We all had lunch with Mrs. Ricker and then visited the gardens of Mr. Chester Tompkins. Mr. and Mrs. Evans started breaking out with iris fever, and long after the rest of us had given up the chase and were resting in the shade, were still eagerly following Mr. Tompkins over hill and dale. I'm afraid theirs is a fatal case. Mr. Tompkins has seven acres of iris. He has some perfectly beautiful ones, but to my great regret, I didn't see half of them. I can tell you that I will never be entirely happy until I own Honeyflow—that lovely pink-rose blend with golden honey spilling out of its heart! It is really beautiful.

Of course, the first thing I saw in this garden was Campanula. It is a mid-blue with well closed standards and rather drooping falls, a long flower but very blue and attractive. And of course I loved Wing Command, a low, ruffled dark blue. La Golondrina was fine. I call it deep lavender or light purple—he calls it royal purple. It is ruffled and stands up well. I liked Damascus as well as any orange I have seen, though the branching isn't the best. Tunisian Gold was very good. I didn't like Sonatine because I found it dull and uninteresting, though, as he says, it may be good for breeding. I also fell for Copperclad—"red-copper, ruffled standards, nearly a perfect self. Nice round flower with high shoulders." I liked his seedling 49-108. It was as near the pink of a peach blossom as I have ever seen. The small round flowers are beautiful on a nice low plant. The whole effect is lovely. Cape Bon was a nice red-henna (I call it) blend. 49-13 was a good blue with round falls and a yellow beard. It was shaped so that it had windows through which you looked at its lovely heart.

Mr. Tompkins is really working up there in Sioux City and is accomplishing some wonderful things. I only wish I could have spent



a week there and visited his garden every morning early.

Sunday, our day to visit the C. G. Whittings, dawned bright and fair. We dawdled in the usual Sunday fashion but reached Mapleton for our noonday meal, then drove over to the Whiting's home. They were out of the city but Mrs. Ricker was able to show us around. We met Mr. H. M. Hill from Lafontaine, Kansas. I was glad to meet him; I have had some small dealings with him and they have been so satisfactory. I wish it were possible to visit the gardens of all the growers we deal with; it is always such an interesting thing to do.

We stopped at the Sioux City home of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Emery. They have taken a steep hillside that might have been a liability and made it an asset. The garden is made at different levels, reached by rock steps. The steps have high walls on each side of huge red rocks. The effect is wonderful. The seedling garden is like Mr. Carl Schirmer's—in terraces. Does that make a display counter for iris?

The first thing I saw that literally took my breath away was—you could never guess. The flowers were huge, radiantly pink, beautifully grown. Yes, it was China Maid, but so lovely I exclaimed, "What is that beautiful thing?" That iris is like a chameleon. Sometimes it looks ratty, sometimes beautiful. The Emerys have made a good start and are so interested that you will be likely hearing from them some day. And for real beauty their garden is well worth seeing.

On Wednesday, again in Sioux City, we visited the garden of George Dubes, but he had gone to his seedling patch and we didn't have time to go over there. He had iris like Easter Bonnet, Damascus and Shishaldin growing nicely in his yard. His next door neighbor, Mr. Cooley, was very kind about answering our questions. He had some beautiful blue-purple flowers blooming but didn't know their name. However, he remedied that by taking me up a coffee can of them. I feel sure they must belong to the campanula family but don't know what branch.

You are really going to appreciate the open-handed hospitality of the Middle West and the food you get at their restaurants. We didn't hit one poor meal.

I think all of you who drive to the Annual Meeting in your cars should plan to spend a couple of days visiting Pickstown (its old Ft. Randall), and the dam being built there on the Missouri River to help protect us folks lower down from dangerous floods. The little town is nestled on top of a "hill-mountain" and you can see as far as your eyes will let you. The dam was the one thing that overshadowed iris on our trip; I would have hated to miss seeing it and the "pheasant" country between there and Sioux City. For information about such a side trip, write to George Evans, Pickstown, South Dakota.

## IRIS FROM EVERYWHERE AT WHITING'S

We went back to Mrs. Whiting's garden on May 27 and June 1. The first day we saw Gilt Edge again. I'm anxious to try that and see if it will grow as beautifully here as there. I was much intrigued with it up in that country. We saw Campfire Glow—a nice small red blend. (Let me pause to say I may be very inexact about colors judged by a color dictionary—I am just telling you how they look to me.) Spring Cheer was cream with falls flushed with lavender. Muhlestein's Gay Orchid—beautiful orchid with burnished satiny falls. Bandmaster was making a lovely clump. I liked Joan Lay—beautiful, small, poised yellow bitone. Pink Reflection was pretty. Lady Louise was a beautiful yellow with white on the falls.

Tom Craig's Regal Robe had the "velvetiest" falls with no edging and light blue standards. It was the loveliest neglecta I ever saw but it had a very poor habit of branching and blooming. You had to be close enough to admire the individual flower. It was definitely not a garden clump. Muhlestein's Pink Formal was by far the deepest flamingo pink I ever saw. But the whole flower had a fulvous overcast, something like pink *hemerocallis* have in so many instances. It had the oddest substance I ever saw. It would ribbon right out in the strong wind and then between gusts it would shape up into a perfect flower again—apparently not damaged in the least. It was fun to watch it. I would say it is a big step forward.

Pathfinder—big and pink and ruffled with some lavender on the falls, caused me to be covetous. And Lilac Lane I have to have before too long. It is a perfect lilac color in a good iris. Lyell's Stratosphere Blue gave me such a shock that it's growing in my garden right this minute and if it doesn't thrive it is going to be replaced immediately. El Morocco, slightly pink blend, made a pretty clump. Cape Bon is a nice red-brown blend flushed with gold. (I think Tompkins has developed blends that head the list.)

Carl Taylor has a beautiful blue seedling (430) that I liked better than Keene Valley. Nankeen, a large yellow, blended of cool Chinese yellow overcast with chrome, was taking the high wind in its stride. Gypsy Rose was beautiful but wasn't taking it too well. Rocket, on the other hand, was as radiant as it could be on a still day. You will never appreciate Rocket until you see it in huge clumps against a green background, the way it grows at the Whitings'. Radiation was the prettiest Hall pink I saw on the trip. Of course it is more of a very light raspberry shade than it is a flamingo pink.

Milliken's Luxuria was a pretty lilac colored iris—a long iris something like Blue Shimmer. Then I met an old friend from Memphis,



Mrs. Ketchum's Swamp Fox. It is a rather subdued lavender blend with blue on the falls. It was making an attractive clump and taking the wind.

Technicolor and Garden Glory were growing in profusion in adjoining rows. The wind and sun were shriveling edges of Technicolor but didn't disturb Garden Glory in the least, which still leaves Garden Glory my favorite red. It isn't tall but it is such a heavenly shade of velvety rosy red that it is really capable of blending in with the garden picture. Maytime was a pink amoena—it shows plainly that it is a child of Shannopin. (Shannopin has been one of my favorites since I saw a splendid clump of it in Jesse Wills' garden several years ago.)

Monona—a rose and blue-purple blend was attractive but some will object to the poor branching. (Personally, I have decided we stress branching too much. For garden gladdening it's hard to beat a clump with the flowers all blooming in a mass on top like Geddes Douglas' Carousel and several of Mrs. Whiting's. She, also, likes the top massing of color. It all depends on where and how you use an iris.) I didn't particularly like Fugue—the falls were too much inclined to be strappy. I saw Fort Ticonderoga in Mrs. Whiting's garden and thought it an "uglyish" small red. I also saw Kenneth Smith's Keene Valley—a lovely light blue not as attractive as Blue Valley to me nor outstandingly different. Of course it would be useful in making a shaded planting which is my idea of the loveliest way to plant iris—and one of the most difficult ways. To do it you have to fetch and carry and match and ponder while the iris are blooming. In fact, the only way I can do it satisfactorily is to move the iris while they are blooming and try them for effect in clumps. And my iris plantings have increased to the point where that is no longer feasible. Hence I have to stumble along with a tapestry effect and hope for the best.

I saw Helen Collingwood, also by K. Smith. It had reddish purple falls and particularly clean standards. Tom Craig's Peg Dabagh is a really deep blue, the bluest Mohr seedling I've seen. Lodestone is a brilliant orange. It makes a striking clump.

Of course, none of these accounts of my visits do justice to the various plantings—the magnificent vistas at Sass's, the terraced beauty of the Schirmers', the magnificent setting for tapestried beauty at St. Benedict's, the beauty covered hills at Chester Tompkins, the landscaped loveliness of Mrs. Whiting's with a chance to see many of her lovely iris growing in clumps and masses against shrubby backgrounds, Mrs. Ricker's convenient little showcase of beautiful blossoms, the Emerys' artistically landscaped garden. All are beyond my poor powers to describe. But this I can say, you won't want to miss any of it.

## *A 1949 Report from - - -*

# **New Jersey and Southern New York**

CHARLES H. CALDWELL, (N.J.)

*R. V. P., Region 19*

A very mild winter preceding the 1949 iris season in Region 19 advanced the time of bloom about ten days. There was an excess of rain in the early part of the year and some rain during the blooming season; also in central New Jersey there was hail which did some damage. From the end of the season until late in August we had less than one inch of rain.

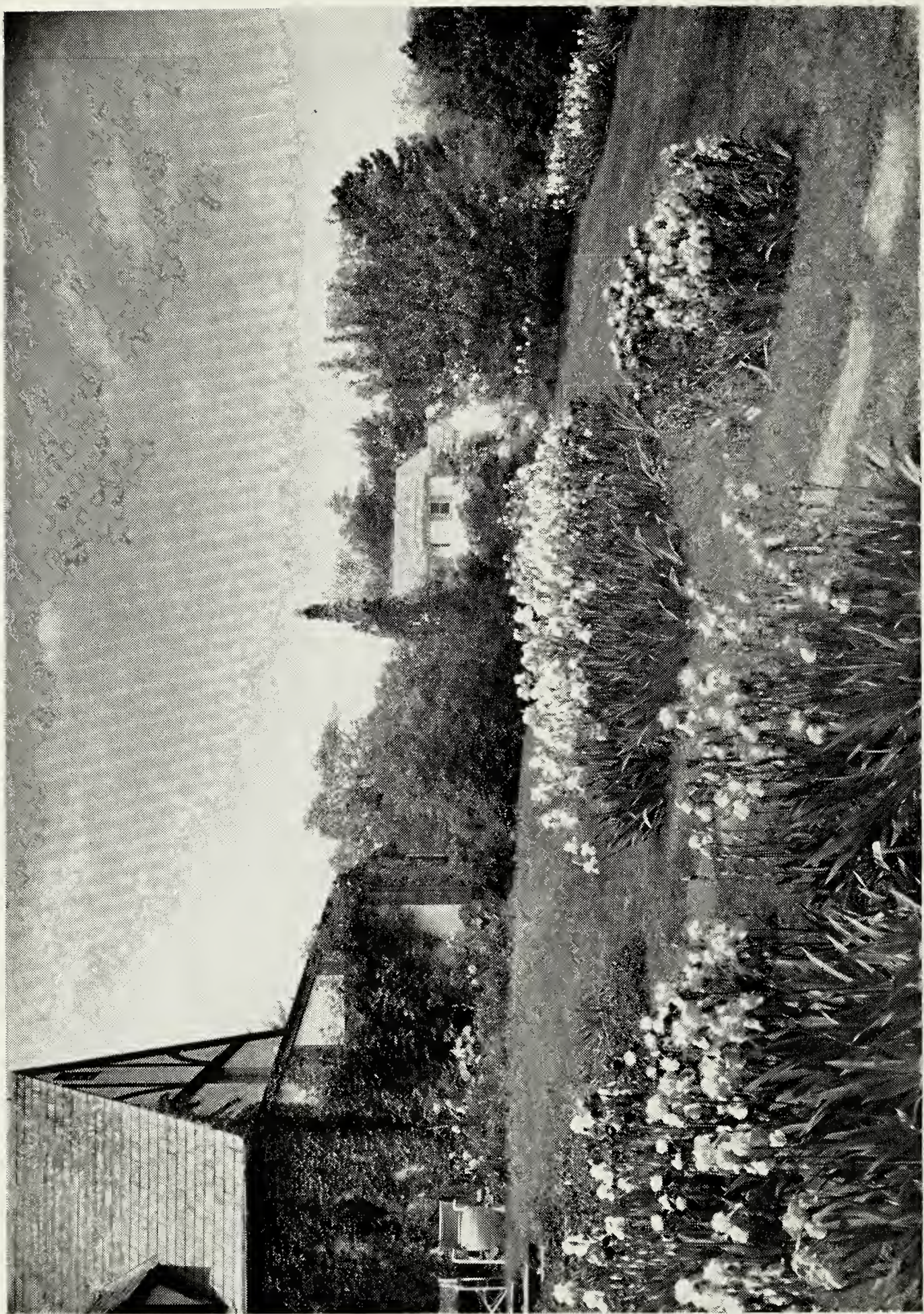
Reports from over New Jersey indicated that the bloom was generally good. Formation of the Iris Society of New Jersey stimulated interest in iris growing; new gardens have been started and many of the members have been experimenting in breeding. The society held several winter meetings, at one of which the slides of the American Iris Society were shown, and at another Mr. Fred Cassebeer gave an interesting talk illustrated by his own fine slides. The annual meeting was held at the Presby Memorial Garden and was attended by a goodly number of iris enthusiasts who enjoyed a short talk by Mr. John Wister.

As the gardens in this section are usually small and iris are grown as part of the garden picture, we do not have many large displays. We must look to the Presby Garden and to the gardens of Mr. Cassebeer and Mr. Kenneth Smith for the newer varieties.

The bloom at the Presby Garden was very fine and was enjoyed by many visitors. Tangerine bearded pinks excited a great deal of attention. Radiation, Hit Parade, Pink Cameo and some of Mr. David Hall's seedlings did well, and a large clump of Flora Zenor made a fine showing. Kenneth Smith's Staten Island was regarded as the best of the variegatas. Dr. Graves' Lady Boscawen was much admired, and among others especially noted were Lady Mohr, Black Forest, Blue Valley, Helen McGregor, Extravaganza, Firecracker, Fantasy and Dr. Casselman's Cassel Blue.

Among the smaller gardens Mrs. E. L. Scott of Bogota reports success with Helen McGregor and Fire Dance. She also has some interesting seedlings to bloom in 1950. Mrs. John Dougherty of Montclair had a fine bed of the new pinks, including Hit Parade, Courtier, Spindrift, Flora Zenor and one of Mr. Hall's seedlings from which she





Gottscho-Schleisner photo



has made some interesting crosses. She also has seedlings from Ormohr.

In my own Montclair garden Pink Cameo, Blue Shimmer, Magic Carpet, Jasper Agate, Solid Mahogany, Ola Kala and Great Lakes all did well. Among the species were bucharica, graminea, tectorum alba, blue and white cristata, shrevi and both purple and white dichotoma.

I regret that I was unable to visit Mr. Cassebeer's garden, as he has one of the few large displays in this section. Mrs. Scott reported to me that it was very beautiful. Near the house are long beds of perennials and iris, with large clumps of new varieties—some not yet on the market—and also older sorts that are particular favorites. At the side of the house is a large field of seedlings and new varieties. Especially worthy of mention were Pretty Quadroon, Argus Pheasant, Helen McGregor and Sky Ranger. Mr. Cassebeer has two other gardens, some distance away, for his seedlings. Outstanding were long rows of peach and tan blends. Mr. Cassebeer received a gold medal for his display of seedlings at the May 18 meeting of the Horticultural Society of New York.

From Mr. Cassebeer I learned that Kenneth Smith has some fine blue seedlings from crosses of some of his own blues with some from Dr. Graves. Noteworthy in his garden were Keene Valley and Helen Collingwood. He has also some interesting amoenas and yellows. A visit to his beautiful garden at Dongan Hills, Staten Island, New York, is a treat to iris lovers.

Mrs. C. S. Hemmingway, Bound Brook, N.J., who grows three hundred varieties, reported rain and hail during her blooming season. In spite of the weather, Master Charles, Cloud Castle, Spindrift, Lynn Langford, Chantilly and Mr. Hall's 47-10 came through without a blemish, all showing good substance. Arab Chief, Azure Skies, Garden Glory, Golden Spangle, Storm King and Three Oaks all did well.

I have not yet had an opportunity to get acquainted with our members in Westchester and Long Island, but hope to be able to report on their gardens during the coming season. Members who did not reply to my fall letter are urged to write me so that we may work out a helpful program of activity for the region.



Kenneth Smith's garden at Dongan Hills, Staten Island, is one of the iris show places in the New York area.



## *New Registration and Introduction Procedure*

Action was taken by the AIS Board of Directors at their November, 1949, meeting to consolidate and co-ordinate the registration and introduction procedure of the Society. Included in this action was the merging of the offices of Registrar and Recorder, and the integration of registration and introduction procedure. However, the chain of events leading from official registration to the Dykes Medal remains unchanged and eligibility for any award or honor depends upon the satisfactory completion of all requisite procedures.

Thus, registration is a requisite for introduction; introduction for Honorable mention; H. M. for the Award of Merit; and the A. M. is the requisite for Dykes Medal eligibility. Only the Certificate of Commendation and High Commendation are non-mandatory requirements of eligibility for the higher awards. Although frequently used by originators as a basis for introduction, High Commendation is not a condition for introduction nor for subsequent H. M.

After careful reconsideration the Board reaffirmed the established registration fee of one dollar as being consistent with the cost of such service and the long-standing practice in many other societies. The present limitation of ten registrations per person per year was likewise maintained.

### REVISED REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

Those who desire to register the names of newly originated iris clones (varieties) should follow carefully the following procedure, which became effective January 1, 1950:

1. *Select one or more good names for each clone you wish to register.*
2. *Consult the 1939 Alphabetical Iris Check List and subsequent annual reports of the Registrar to learn whether the names selected have already been used or are still apparently available. (Annual reports of the Registrar are in back issues of the BULLETIN. A low-cost reprint of these reports will be made available later this year.)*
3. *Obtain an "Application for Registration" form for each clone that you propose to register. These forms are available at \$1.00 each—the registration fee—from the AIS Secretary.*
4. *Fill out the "Application for Registration" and forward it to the Registrar. If there is any question about the availability of names, list first, second and third choices on your application. Keep a copy of each application for your records.*

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

Application for Registration

Fee One Dollar

Application is hereby made for the registration of the name SATISFACTION

its exclusive assignment to the newly originated iris clone more particularly described as follows:

Place of Origin Escalante, Utah Type Tall Bearded

Season Midseason-Late Average Height 42 inches

Dominant Color (standards) Orange-yellow

Coordinate Color (falls, markings, etc.) Orange-red, gold reticulations at haft

Immediate Parent Technicolor

Maternal Parent Red Torch

Signature of Originator Herkimer Benson

Date June 22, 1950 Address Bountiful Canyon Road  
St. George, Utah

.....  
Detach Here

REGISTRATION APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- Give all the detailed information possible; it may aid in distinguishing the clone from a closely similar one.
- The originator of the clone should apply for the registration unless a selector has acquired the clone prior to registration.
- Types: Include Bearded, tall, intermediate and dwarf; Siberian; Spuria; Japanese; Louisiana; California, etc. (see Check List).
- Season: Ranges from Extra Early (EE) to Extremely Late (VVL) (see Check List).
- Height: Give average height of flower stalk in inches
- Color: Use Fisher Color Chart for simple color identification. Use Wilson Color Chart for specific hue names, if available. Otherwise use any recognized color chart but cite reference.
- Parents: List parents by name or number. If by number give nearest named ancestors if known.

An Application for Registration, properly filled out and ready for forwarding to the AIS Registrar.



5. *The Registrar will send you an official Certificate of Registration. File it in a safe place, readily accessible for reference.*

### SPECIAL CASES

1. If all the names selected and proposed are unavailable by reason of prior use and non-obsolescence, the Registrar will so advise the applicant and supply duplicate forms without charge.
2. The registered name of a new clone may be transferred once to another clone upon application of the registrant within two years of the original date of application.
3. Books of the Registrar will close as of October 31 each year in order that the report of the Registrar may be compiled and published in the January BULLETIN.
4. The Society's Secretary will refund the fees on all unused registration applications returned to him by the applicant.
5. No fee will be charged by the Secretary for registration applications furnished to the affiliated societies of the British Empire. Through these societies must come approved and endorsed applications for the registration of new irises originating in the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa, but not including the Dominion of Canada.

### REVISED INTRODUCTION PROCEDURE

The formal introduction of a new iris clone is as necessary to its recognition and eligibility as is registration. The term "Introduction" is defined as "the acceptance by the Recorder of a statement of introduction, supported by the public offering of the variety for sale, either in the AIS BULLETIN or in catalogues or price lists." Prior registration of the name is the one requirement for the formal introduction of a new iris. Introductions may be made during the year of registration or in any subsequent year. The introducer of a new iris is the person or firm that first offers it for sale. There is no limit on the number of registered clones that an introducer may introduce in one year. Neither is there a charge for recording the introduction of new clones. However, the formal introduction of a clone depends upon the initiative of the introducer, just as official registration depends upon the initiative of the originator.

The following procedure should be followed by all who wish to introduce and record new irises:

1. *Obtain free "Statement of Introduction" forms from the Secretary.*
2. *List on the "Statement of Introduction" all the registered clones scheduled for introduction during the year, together with the identifying information needed.*
3. *Send one copy of your "Statement of Introduction" to the Recorder and keep one for your own records.*
4. *For each introduced clone the Recorder will return to you a "Certificate of Introduction" which should be filed with the cor-*

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

## Certificate of Registration

*This is to Certify* that the iris clone

SCIPIO AFRICANUS

AO-12BI

which conforms to the following description:

Intermediate bearded; very early blooming;

Dark violet standards and falls; height 20";

Parentage: Black Forest x Negus

and for which application for registration was made by: the

Originator, Joel C. Caldwell, El Paso, Texas

has been officially entered in the Iris Register and is now eligible for introduction.

Date January 20, 1950

Robert E. Allen  
Registrar

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

## Certificate of Introduction

*This is to Certify* that the iris clone

CLAIRVOYANT

AO-24BT-8

which conforms to the following description:

Tall Bearded; late blooming; height 40"

Light pink standards; violet-red falls

Parentage: Bridget X Canasta

Originator: Duncan Dougal, Quincy, Vermont

and for which a formal statement of introduction was submitted by:

Columbia Gardens, Vancouver, Washington

is hereby declared duly introduced and the fact thereof is officially recorded. The variety is now declared eligible for Honorable Mention by the American Iris Society and for such contingent awards and honors as it may merit.

Date Jan. 22, 1950

Robert E. Allen  
Recorder

Certificate of Registration (above) and Introduction (below) as completed by the AIS Registrar and Recorder and returned to breeders or dealers who register and introduce iris clones.



*responding "Certificate of Registration." Each iris so registered and recorded is then eligible for Honorable Mention and such subsequent honors and awards as it may merit.*

#### SPECIAL CASES

1. All irises introduced in the British Empire, excepting Canada, with the approval of affiliated societies will be accepted as formal introductions at the instance of the appropriate society.

2. The introduction into the United States and Canada of any iris originating elsewhere will require the same introduction procedure on the part of the American introducer as that prescribed for American introductions.

The AIS officers concerned in the registration and introduction procedures are always listed on the front inside cover of the BULLETIN. Currently the Secretary, from whom forms are secured, is Geddes Douglas, 444 Chestnut St., Nashville 10, Tennessee, and the Registrar and Recorder, to whom completed forms are sent, is Robert E. Allen, 282 Fisher Ave., White Plains, New York.

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## 1949 Regional Performance Ratings

L. F. RANDOLPH

*Chairman, Scientific Committee*

The rating procedure for 1949 was a continuation of the 1948 program, with modifications introduced to simplify the recording of scores. A modified score sheet was issued with 5 rather than 9 items to be scored and the number of varieties listed on the score sheet was reduced from 70 to 50.

The selection of the varieties to be scored was based on a census of 350 award iris. Judges were asked to single check the varieties available for rating and double check those which they were most interested in having rated. The 50 varieties receiving the highest number of preferential votes were listed on the score sheet. It was recognized that this method of selection would eliminate newer varieties not yet widely distributed, for which it would be highly desirable to have ratings. But from the experience of previous years it was apparent that significant ratings could not be established for any appreciable number of varieties throughout most of the regions unless widely distributed varieties were chosen for rating. The problem of obtaining significant regional ratings of the newer varieties of limited distribution remains to be solved, but its solution is by no means hopeless. It may be desirable to issue performance ratings of recent introductions as soon as they are established in several regions.

The number of judges participating in the 1949 ratings was 113, as shown in the following table which lists the number of accredited

judges assigned to each region, the number who submitted scores and the number of varieties rated in each region by 3 or more judges.

Region	Judges	Judges Participating	Varieties Rated by 3 or More Judges
1	27	3	2
2	8	1	0
3	15	5	18
4	17	3	7
5	16	3	0
6	20	6	17
7	28	4	21
8	5	1	0
9	25	7	38
10	11	3	29
11	11	8	48
12	17	6	31
13	25	4	10
14	12	3	6
15	21	3	0
16	20	6	14
17	31	7	40
18	62	32	50
19	14	1	0
20	9	4	39
A	12	3	23

The response from Region 11 was excellent with 8 of their 11 judges submitting scores. Region 18 responded very adequately with 32 of 62 judges participating. Other regions responded less actively. From 4 to 8 returns were received from 9 other regions and 10 or more varieties were scored by 3 or more judges in 13 of the 21 regions, including England and Canada.

Improvement was noted in the uniformity of standards employed by judges in recording scores, but there were exceptions. A few judges continued to make free use of the perfect score of 10, others rarely scored higher than 8 or 9 and still others gave many very low scores. Averages involving wide differences in scoring procedure are of questionable significance, especially when rather small numbers of scores are available for comparison.

Performance ratings were computed only for the regions from which 5 or more judges submitted scores, and for varieties scored by 3 or more judges in each of these regions. The accompanying tables list the ratings and the number of scores on which each rating is based.

There was a very considerable spread in the ratings from a low of 66 to a high of 97, but the majority ranged from 80 to 90. There were 2 ratings between 60 and 69, 22 between 70 and 79, 82 between 80 and 89 and there were 18 of 90 or above. This is very nearly



# 1949 REGIONAL PERFORMANCE RATINGS

For varieties scored by 3 or more judges in regions reporting scores from at least 5 judges.

VARIETY	REGION 3	REGION 6	REGION 9	REGION 11	REGION 12	REGION 16	REGION 17	REGION 18
	Scores	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores	Rating	Scores
Aubanel	3	81				3	80	20
Aztec Copper			3	76				23
Brown Thrasher			3	88				24
Brunhilde	3	80						20
California Peach			3	89				21
Caroline Burr			3	97				23
Casa Morena			3	83				26
Cloud Castle								23
Copper Lustre	4	76						28
E. B. Williamson	4	86	4	89				25
Firecracker			3	89				22
Flora Zenor	3	75	4	89				28
Frank Adams	4	91	4	93				26
Garden Flame			4	79				25
Garden Magic			3	88				27
Goldbeater								19
Golden Eagle			5	84				27
Golden Hind	4	77	3	93				26
Icy Blue								20
Junaluska	3	83	4	96				21





an ideal distribution of rating values, with the ratings of 90 or more sufficiently limited to be distinctive and with an adequate spread in the range from low to high numbers. Considering the fact that a highly selected group of exclusively award irises was being rated it isn't surprising that relatively few regions reported very low scores. However, there were many examples of conspicuous differences between the ratings of the same variety in different regions, which indicate that real differences in regional performance do exist, the most significant differences being those for ratings computed from the largest number of scores.

When the 1949 scores were assembled from the different regions it was obvious that they were comparable only within rather wide limits. There was a tendency for the judges of certain regions to submit higher scores than were submitted by the judges of other regions. This is apparent from the lists of varieties that received ratings of 89 or higher in the 5 regions which score the largest number of varieties.

REGION 9 (Illinois)		REGION 12 (Utah, Arizona, New Mexico)	
Caroline Burr	97	Junaluska	96
Junaluska	96	Tiffany	94
Minnie Colquitt	93	Patricia	93
Treasure Island	93	Frank Adams	92
Flora Zenor	90	Treasure Island	92
Midwest Gem	90	Stardom	91
Tiffany	90	Old Parchment	90
Sonrisa	89	Golden Hind	89
		Louvois	89
		Matula	89
		Red Gleam	89
		San Francisco	89
		Sierra Blue	89
REGION 11 (Montana, Idaho, Wyoming)		REGION 17 (Oklahoma, Texas)	
Tishomingo	96		
Sonrisa	94	Sierra Blue	93
Frank Adams	93	Vatican Purple	93
Lord Dongan	93	Caroline Burr	92
Nightingale	93	Minnie Colquitt	92
Ozone	93	Treasure Island	92
Junaluska	92	Old Parchment	91
Minnie Colquitt	92	Matula	90
Tiffany	92	Firecracker	89
West Point	92	Stardom	89
White City	92	West Point	89
Copper Lustre	91		
L. Merton Gage	91	REGION 18 (Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas)	
Vatican Purple	91	Vatican Purple	91
Snowking	90	Goldbeater	90
Sunset Serenade	90	Minnie Colquitt	90
Caroline Burr	89	Snow Velvet	90
Golden Eagle	89	Cloud Castle	89
Mexico	89	Treasure Island	89
Sierra Blue	89		

The ratings for Region 11 and 12 averaged higher, and those of Region 18 averaged lower, than those of Regions 9 and 17. The 20 varieties of Region 11 which received ratings of 89 or higher constituted 42% of the total number rated; the 13 varieties similarly rated in Region 12 was also 42% of their total. Only 6 of 50 varieties, or 12%, in Region 18 received the higher ratings. Intermediate numbers of high ratings were submitted from Regions 9 and 17 with 21% and 25% of their varieties being included in the group with ratings of 89 or higher. Further standardization of rating procedures is needed to establish a more uniform system of ratings in the different regions.

A comparison of the top-ranking varieties from the various regions reveals many differences in regional performance, with only a very limited number of varieties performing uniformly well in several regions. Caroline Burr received the highest rating in 3 of the 5 regions in which the largest number of varieties were rated. Treasure Island and Minnie Colquitt were highly rated in 4 of these 5 regions and Vatican Purple appears in 3 of the lists of highly rated varieties. These are the exceptional varieties that are adapted to a wider range of growing conditions than are other varieties that exhibited much more pronounced regional preferences.

The judges of Region 18 submitted a truly remarkable number of scores for the entire list of varieties on the score sheet, which are deserving of careful study. Each of the 50 varieties was rated by eleven or more judges and 41 were rated by at least 20 judges. This was an ample number of scores from which to compute reliable regional ratings for all of these varieties. The averages for each of the 5 scores recorded for the 50 varieties and the regional ratings, which are the averages of the 5 scores, are shown in the accompanying table.

## PERFORMANCE RATINGS FOR REGION 18

Averages of the Ratings Submitted by 32 Judges

VARIETIES TO BE SCORED	PLANT CHARACTERS		FLOWER STALK		FLOWER	
	Winter hardy, floriferous, attractive foliage	Vigorous, adequate increase, disease resistant	Erect and sturdy with well balanced branching	Height in proportion to size of blooms, adequate buds	Resistant to adverse weather, no fading	Regional rating
Aubanel	90	87	77	85	77	83
Aztec Copper	86	83	80	83	84	83
Brown Thrasher	89	88	75	83	72	81
Brunhilde	78	80	83	87	89	83
California Peach	78	80	71	84	69	76
Caroline Burr	83	87	80	88	90	86
Casa Morena	88	86	81	81	85	84



Averages of the Ratings Submitted by 32 Judges

VARIETIES TO BE SCORED	PLANT CHARACTERS			FLOWER STALK	FLOWER	
	Winter hardy, floriferous, attractive foliage	Vigorous, adequate increase, disease resistant	Erect and sturdy with well balanced branching	Height in proportion to size of blooms, adequate buds	Resistant to adverse weather, no fading	Regional rating
Cloud Castle	93	94	87	90	82	89
Copper Lustre	85	86	75	75	69	78
E. B. Williamson	89	86	78	83	80	83
Firecracker	90	81	80	85	91	85
Flora Zenor	84	86	70	69	76	77
Frank Adams	90	92	89	87	84	88
Garden Flame	79	75	78	80	89	80
Garden Magic	80	79	80	84	89	82
Goldbeater	91	91	86	91	93	90
Golden Eagle	80	83	65	84	80	79
Golden Hind	86	88	75	81	82	83
Icy Blue	82	86	81	86	77	82
Junaluska	90	90	86	88	88	88
L. Merton Gage	84	87	81	81	81	83
Lord Dongan	83	85	78	86	84	83
Louvois	79	83	73	80	83	80
Matula	81	80	72	78	81	78
Mexico	80	78	77	82	84	80
Midwest Gem	85	88	81	86	83	85
Minnie Colquitt	94	92	84	86	92	90
Morocco Rose	87	78	73	77	73	78
Nightingale	85	80	78	84	80	81
Old Parchment	84	80	79	86	80	82
Ormohr	76	77	74	76	89	78
Ozone	85	91	82	86	92	87
Patricia	88	79	78	84	89	84
Prince of Orange	84	77	77	91	84	83
Red Gleam	87	87	87	87	82	86
Redward	84	81	81	80	81	81
San Francisco	72	76	85	84	93	82
Sierra Blue	86	89	71	86	88	84
Snowking	87	88	78	85	89	86
Snow Velvet	89	89	86	91	93	90
Sonrisa	80	82	76	79	76	78
Stardom	90	90	83	83	73	85
Sunset Serenade	89	82	81	84	76	83
Tiffany	96	93	80	88	91	88
Tishomingo	85	82	67	85	87	81
Treasure Island	92	89	86	86	90	89
Vatican Purple	94	90	88	90	93	91
Wakarusa	79	75	76	79	76	77
West Point	87	85	84	83	89	86
White City	90	88	83	84	89	87

Scarcely more than a glance at this table is needed to appreciate the wealth of valuable information obtainable from these scores. Varieties

that have the highest ratings of 89 to 91, such as Cloud Castle, Goldbeater, Minnie Colquitt, Snow Velvet, Treasure Island and Vatican Purple have either consistently high scores for each of the 5 groups of characters or exceptionally high scores for most characters and no very low score for any one character.

Three of the six best performers in Region 18 originated in this region. Of the other three, one came from New England, another from Nashville and the third from Oregon. Other originations from this region, but by no means all of those in the list, received better than average ratings.

The results of the 1949 ratings and those of 1947 and 1948, while not as comprehensive as might be desired, have shown that most varieties tend to exhibit definite regional preferences, as many critical observers of variety performance have noted repeatedly when visiting gardens in different parts of the country. The conclusion is obvious. Anyone interested in selecting the varieties that will perform to the best advantage in his garden—and who isn't?—should have reliable information on regional performance to serve as a guide in making selections. Certain varieties unquestionably have the ability to adapt themselves to a wide range of climatic and soil conditions. But the data on regional performance accumulated during the 3 years this rating program has been in operation indicate that the performance of most varieties is better in some regions than it is in others. If this is true the promotion of regional performance ratings should increase immeasurably the popularity of garden iris, by aiding gardeners in the selection of varieties best adapted to their locality.

#### PLANS FOR 1950 RATINGS

There are important advantages to be gained by having the regional performance rating program integrated more closely with regional organizations. Newer varieties in which the members of a particular region are especially interested can be included in the list of varieties to be scored just as soon as they are established in representative gardens of the region. The local organizations can more effectively stimulate interest and cooperation in regional projects and the program can be limited to those regions that are definitely interested in the program.

The Directors of the Society at their November, 1949, meeting approved the suggestion of the Scientific Committee that the 1950 regional performance rating program be conducted in co-operation with established regional organizations. Regional Vice-Presidents will be asked to take a more active part in the handling of the rating program.



The score sheet developed for the 1949 ratings seemed better adapted to the purpose and met with more general approval than did the more complicated forms used the previous year. Probably not more than 50 or 60 varieties should be rated in any one year. However, increased interest in the regional ratings undoubtedly would result from the inclusion in the program of more of the newer varieties of limited distribution, to serve as a guide to prospective buyers of the high priced novelties. The possibility of adjusting the program to accomplish this will be fully explored as the 1950 program is developed in consultation with the regional officers of the society.

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### WHOSE NOSE KNOWS?

Some years ago when the powers that be said that a person introducing a new iris should state what it smelled like, I entered a mild protest by asking how we would know if the introducer's nose knew. I was and am still of the opinion that the perception of odor, being a personal function, is unlike in any two persons. Dr. Kinsey would call it "Uniqueness of Individuals." My contention was supported soon after at a national flower show when, if I remember rightly, about 32 per cent of the persons smelling a vase of freesias said they either had no odor or it was unpleasant. Further endorsement is an article in *Horticulture* of September, 1948, written by W. I. P. Campbell and Albert F. Blakeslee. At a spring flower show at Smith College greenhouse, visitors were asked to smell flowers of *Bombeya natalensis* and report as to its odor. Fifty-eight filled out the blanks. One said no odor, twenty-nine said pleasant, ten indifferent, sixteen unpleasant, two said it had both pleasant and unpleasant elements.

But the interesting part of the test to me was the answers to the question, "What does the odor smell like to you?" Clover, strawberries, almond, heliotrope, coconut candy, honeysuckle, turnips, wild cherry, May flowers and stale orange rind together, lemon and apple blossoms, are some of the descriptions given by those who called the odor pleasant. Rotten coconut, lemon-lime,

rotten eggs, sweaty socks, soured milk, wilted cucumber, pyridine, floor wax and "something rotten" are among those given as unpleasant.

With this variation in perception we are still expected to describe the odor when our description would be incorrect to other people. I know of no breeders who pay much attention to odor in their breeding programs. If they were breeding for fragrance they would have to go back to old-timers like *Caprice* and *Fairy*. Let's just say fragrant if that is so, but remember that odor and fragrance are not always synonymous. That old dwarf, *Orange Queen*, is often listed as fragrant, when to me it has the foulest odor of any Iris.

And now to paraphrase Kipling:

"You can work it out by fractions or by simple rule of three. But the sense of smell of Tweedle-Dum is not that of Tweedle-Dee.

"You can twist it, you can turn it, you can plait it till you drop. But the sense of smell of Pilly-Wink is not that of Winkie-Pop."

—A. W. MacKenzie, Albuquerque, N.M.

EDITOR'S NOTE—Mr. MacKenzie talks sense in an entertaining manner. Fortunately, others have had the same idea, and under the Society's new registration procedure, described elsewhere in this issue, breeders are not required to guess at the fragrance of their new irises.

# Iris in Ontario Gardens

MRS. HARRY BICKLE, (CANADA)

*R. V. P., Region 16*

One does not undertake an iris "progress" lightly in Ontario. The peak season is the same in many parts of western Ontario; however, though a few miles away the iris will not open until a few days later; and then, one's own garden is usually very demanding. The ideal scheme, which seems to be achieved by some iris lovers, was the life work, so they say, of a Scotchman who craved strawberries. He started the berry season in North Africa and moved north with the ripening fruit into the north of Scotland. The plan has merit but one would need to be endowed to take advantage of it.

The spacious gardens of Mrs. Graeme Adam and Doctor A. H. Rolph, "The Elms," Weston, were the meeting place for the Canadian Iris Society early last June when Mrs. Adam most graciously entertained the members. We were all excited about Dr. Rolph's new seedlings in a very cleverly protected display bed high on the banks of the Humber River. Dr. Rolph is one of our most enthusiastic hybridizers.

Miss M. S. Castle of Rowancroft Gardens, Meadowvale, situated on the Credit River in one of the loveliest parts of old Ontario, left her excellent display of iris to drive me to see the new home and gardens of Mrs. O. M. Walsh in Waterdown. High above Hamilton Bay, the vista across gardens, hills and wooded country is spectacular. Mrs. Walsh has an up-to-date garden of very well grown iris. Her new yellows were particularly fine.

Mr. W. J. Moffat, our beloved President, had a grand display for us to enjoy in his gardens in Hamilton. There were, as expected, the usual early morning callers. The only way to really see the iris is to go early and stay late, as Mr. Moffat's collection is sensational and so well displayed. Both of his gardens are filled with beautiful specimens of modern iris. Particularly intriguing were the lovely pinks and the much discussed new blues. Mr. Moffat has an unusual number of new cream and soft yellow iris which are a very happy addition to our gardens.

In London, at Mr. L. W. Cousins' gardens, we saw his newly introduced Canadian Pearl. I understand that Mrs. Murrell of Orpington Nurseries named it and is introducing it. Could it be that he has another star? There were a number of beautiful white iris in his home garden, but he is hard to satisfy, a perfectionist in fact. He has a charming border iris, Frills, in butterscotch cream, very floriferous and very desirable. We



both liked it. By the way, Mr. Cousins has a few thousand seedlings to bloom next June.

At Mr. William G. Fleming's Sydenham Gardens in London it was surprising to see that he had extended his gardens. Everything is in impeccable order and his plantings are suggestive of an oriental rug design and are most effective. His handling of the usually difficult reds is very clever. He has an outstanding collection, well grown.

Mr. William Miles' gardens at Ingersoll were not in bloom and we missed the pleasure of seeing his seedlings and the wonderfully grown display of Rev. Father Corcoran in Stratford. These gentlemen and Mr. R. D. and Mr. C. E. Little of Richmond Hill are leaders in their communities who are encouraging iris enthusiasts in a thoroughly satisfactory way. Mr. Little invited our members to see his garden in June and had a display table arranged with Canadian iris introductions. It is a good way of emphasizing the progress in iris quality. All, or nearly all, our members are working gardeners who care for their own treasured flowers.

The iris season was very long last year and the growth magnificent. I considered that colour was particularly sound, and the blends and reddish browns seemed almost flawless. The blends grow well.

We admired Arab Chief and Sultan's Robe. Melodist and Cascade Splendor. Bryce Canyon was grand and Toranda, as always, a subtle and appealing flower of perfect habit. Cordovan, Chamois and Casa Morena were all nice on younger plants. It does not seem fair to appraise some first-year bloom.

New Snow, Winter Carnival and Matterhorn were lovely, each in its own way. Franconia was very serene and Lady Boscawen was superb. Their originator must be very proud of his achievements. What an exquisite flower Helen McGregor is!

The creams and yellows are easy to grow—what would we do without them? Berkeley Gold, Misty Gold, Cloth of Gold, Spun Gold, Heart of Gold, Bright Lights, Mattie Gates, Tiffanja, Mabel Chadburn, Ola Kala, Desert Song and the border iris, Frills; to group a mixed lot of outstanding performers.

The pinks are very happy here and are increasing in an amazing way. We noted Cherie, Pink Cameo, Heritage, Fantasy and Lynn Langford, while in the more spectacular class Radiation, Inspiration and Mulberry Rose are dependable and full of life.

Danube Wave brings a good new colour. City of Stratford is a late purple bicolour, tall with great carrying quality and excellent weather resistance. Individual flowers were good for five days. Master Charles and Elmohr were doing well, while Vice-Regal, a rose-amethyst-purple with an opulent bloom is my favorite dark flower. As it grows here

the velvet on the falls is not a conspicuous feature on the very rich texture. It is one of the flowers that one can be proud of at any hour of the day.

In a controversial class one's opinion is offered for what it is worth. I have seen a goodly number of the modern pale and light blue iris in various settings and under differing conditions. At the top of my list are two Canadian iris grown by Mr. Miles of Ingersoll—Elizabeth of England and Mile's "No. 2 Blue."

The BULLETIN is delightful, but it leaves me breathless. There are so many new iris that the "Alice" feeling possesses me. In Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking Glass* the Red Queen, grasping Alice by the hand and dragging her along until their feet skim, hardly touching the ground, shouts, "Faster! faster!" Alice ventures a windblown reply that they do not seem to be moving—in her country you'd generally get to somewhere else if you ran very fast for a long time as they had been doing. "A slow sort of a country!" said the Red Queen. "Now here you see it takes all the running you can do to keep in the same place. If you want to get somewhere else you must run at least twice as fast as that!"

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## *Observations of an Idaho Irisarian*

MRS. ED CONRAD, (IDAHO)

The iris season is twelve months long for me. The effect never completely disappears. Through May and June it becomes a form of intense intoxication and by the first of July I always have a severe hangover characterized by a feverish study of hasty notes, stacks of catalogues, and doleful misgivings about the state of the exchequer as I write and re-write and revise my orders.

If the season for phlox, glads, dahlias, tulips and chrysanthemums was as consistently unfavorable as it can be during iris time these other things would be cast over the back fence but as usual I persevere with my iris hoping that someday—it may be in Heaven—I shall enjoy a perfect season for these favorites of mine.

This past year provided a perfect test for iris for me as far as this locality is concerned. I made a new bed with room for about two hundred varieties. The soil was quite alkaline, devoid of plant food and humus, but the location was good and drainage excellent. Large quantities of very well rotted barnyard manure, wood ashes, superphosphate and bone meal were worked into the entire bed before anything at all



was put out. And in the space I had allotted to the Mohrs and other hybrids I added quite a lot of good clean, sandy gravel.

I had good fall growth on everything and early in November I mulched each row carefully with alfalfa hay stems (the uneaten rough portion of the hay fed the dairy cows). Late in November, winter, such as hasn't been seen in this area for years, settled on us with all its fury. By mid-February my iris garden was buried four to five feet deep in drifted snow that was packed so hard my youngsters could walk all over it. Once in January the temperature *rose* to freezing but we had a low of 26 below zero and night after night was zero and below.

In March when the snow had melted I took one good look at the remains of the iris and felt almost ill. The foliage was not only dead, it had turned black. But after about three weeks of fine dry March wind and warmth I noticed green shoots on nearly every variety. By mid-April I noted that of the 125 or so re-set iris, both old and new varieties, the only ones definitely winter killed were Frieda Mohr and Paulette. I think that was a good record for a new bed, inferior soil, and terrific weather.

I had good blooms—in some instances excellent—and the increase last summer was most gratifying. The rhizomes are a fine size and only one or two cases of soft rot and a minor bit of leaf spot is all the disease I've encountered. And I am still fertilizing. I applied a thorough feeding of superphosphate and lime before blooming time and at intervals all summer long I added light applications of well rotted manure, working it into the soil.

I can't recommend too strongly the wisdom and value of a sensible program of fertilization for the iris garden. I have observed a large number of local iris plantings and the size of the rhizomes, increase and bloom were all directly proportionate to the fertility of the soil. Winter kill and rot are more prevalent I am sure in undernourished plants. Incidentally this is an irrigated farming region.

Each year as I see new or different varieties bloom, I am either thrilled at the sight of something new and truly fine or disappointed that some highly publicized and awarded variety is no better than some old favorite we've grown for years. It makes you wonder how come, who has pull or if politics and log rolling play some part in ratings, and where do we go from here! Iris lovers have fun but it can be an expensive hobby for those of us who have to watch expenditures and it is also a lot of work if a sizable planting is well cared for. And when I am disappointed I feel cheated. I will scarcely buy anything any more until I see it. I prefer it to be tested on someone else's money.

The most important qualifications for an iris to have to please me are good color and good substance. And I mean color with some garden

value. This region is not favored with a planting such as will be found at an iris nursery or at a private hybridizer's extensive gardens. There are few iris shows and exhibits and I don't pretend to grow iris for show. I want them for my own satisfaction and enjoyment. I can't spend much time standing over a specimen bloom either. My greatest pleasure is in viewing them from my kitchen window. Cameroun, Sunset Serenade, Elmohr and Grand Canyon were an ever changing delight last year as the sunlight played on their glowing richness from different angles during the day. Sunset Serenade put on a show almost alone when most of its accompaniment consisted of stalks and beginnings of seed pods.

Then an iris can branch in all directions and have perfect form with no haft marks, but if it can't take a portion of the weather without collapsing on its face, then I don't want it; you can have it, it's too frail for me!

Last spring I noticed these that for one reason or another don't belong in my bed:

Sonrisa: noticed and checked on three times in different local plantings and I've never seen anything fade and turn white so soon after opening, including Rameses and Midgard of a generation back.

Chantilly: except for its really unique edge what is there to recommend it? Its color here is very poor.

Prairie Sunset: poor substance! I've never seen it doing anything but folding up.

Ola Kala: I wouldn't trade one rhizome of Berkeley Gold or Cloth of Gold for three of Ola Kala. I just don't like its color as well and it is often too short here.

Firecracker: this sets my teeth on edge with its garish color just as City of Lincoln always has.

The Red Douglas: every bloom of this singes and burns along the edge almost as soon as open. And I don't like its narrow falls.

Spindrift: the texture veining of this just ruins it I think, and I also dislike the "dirt" in its color.

There are a few varieties that seem so fine here I wonder why it is that they more or less have to occupy the "wings" on the stage of the notables.

Aldura: finer in every way than Blue Shimmer which I also love, with perfection in form and substance not seen in many other iris.

Sheriffa: the most colorful of all the oncos I think. It may not be as large as Elmohr but I prefer its form and blended color. For performance will have to judge it in succeeding years. But on a one-year clump it sent up four bloom stalks carrying twenty-two buds. In July when lifted and divided it had nineteen fine rhizomes as increase.



Winter Carnival: the blooms on this fine white with yellow beard lasted when picked and used in a bouquet longer than any other variety in my planting. They were nice for four days and opened well in water.

Cameroun and Matterhorn: both almost bloom themselves to death and each has a purity of color I shan't forget when and if my bed is again buried under a five foot snow drift.

Marco Polo: for color, for length of blooming season, for vigor, health and all around A-1 performance this old variety is one of my best and I've never seen it looking shameful anywhere. My record shows it was in flower for three weeks and two days.

Some newer varieties I saw and liked on one-year plantings were Tobacco Road, Jasmine, Patrice, Bandmaster, Goldbeater, Mt. Timp, Merry Rose, Burgundy Rose, Fantasy, Cloth of Gold, Chicory Blue, Mexico, Three Oaks, Katherine Fay and Mellowglow.

The Mohrs performed well for me last year, Ormohr just outdoing itself. They and the other hybrids intrigue me partly because growing them successfully requires patience, some ingenuity and is something of a challenge to one's gardening ability.

Of the older standard varieties Wabash, Grand Canyon, Great Lakes, Gloriole, Missouri, Garden Magic, Old Parchment, Alastor, Birchbark, Snow Flurry, Matterhorn, Marquita, Indian Hills, Treasure Island, Miss California, Los Angeles, Narain, Gudrun, Mme. Louis Aureau, Mulberry Rose, Melitza, and Ming Yellow are varieties that do well here and are always beautiful wherever seen. They turn in performances year in and year out that set a standard of excellence so high I wonder how many of the 1948-49 introductions will repeat! It seems to me too many iris are being introduced at too high a price with not enough to recommend them. From what I've seen in two- and three-year performances, Arab Chief, Blue Shimmer, Minnie Colquitt, Remembrance, Winter Carnival, Berkeley Gold and Ranger will join the list of consistently good iris.

For a lovely color combination try Moonlight Madonna and Blue Shimmer planted together. I liked them very much. Bertha Gersdorff and Gilt Edge also did something for each other. And at our local spring flower show an arrangement of Wabash, Birchbark and Indian Hills was lovely.

A planting of plicata seedlings from Tom Craig in the garden of Mrs. C. W. Vallette, Declo, Idaho, was the most outstanding display of new iris that I saw all season. They had everything except names! I've a row of seedlings from Craig with a few by Jory and Mitchell that I shall eagerly await a sight of this spring.

I depend more and more on varietal comments in the BULLETIN. If you read some catalogues, they're all good iris!

# Robins' Roost ) ) ) )

Back again, thanks to the co-operation of Mrs. C. W. Vallette, who directs several Robins from her home in Declo, Idaho, is this department with helpful "chirps" from experienced Robins. Other directors are invited to send "meaty" excerpts from Iris Round Robin letters.

YOU NEVER CAN TELL—In answer to those who believe that the pollen parent controls branching, I must say that Capitola is short and poorly branched; yet many of its seedlings are tall with good branching and spacing, as witness Heigho. Muhlestein's Merry Rose has poor branching, but it has given him lots of excellently branched seedlings... Flora Zenor is a poor parent usually; it gives small size, dirty color, narrow and pinched falls, though it does add fire to variegata blends and it does give fairly good height and vigor to its offspring.—Tom Craig, Los Angeles, Calif.

\* \* \*

MATURE SEED—I've found that maturing pods ripen well even if the stalks have been accidentally broken off, if you merely stick them in moist ground. It works with quite short stalks... Try putting cellophane bags over forming seed pods; it not only protects them from rain and subsequent rotting, but also prevents the Verbena miller from depositing its eggs on the pods to hatch into larvae that eat into the pods and you reap few if any seed.—Mrs. Zelma Pierce, North Little Rock, Ark.

\* \* \*

TRUE BLUE THEORY—Hans Sass told me that among his best 1948 seedlings was No. 42-292 ((Lake Huron X Blue Shimmer) X Salmonette), the bluest blue he ever had, though smallish,

like its pollen parent. He thought we can come closer to true blues by crossing the bluest ones with the pink-bud pinks, which he believed, like the yellows, to owe their color to tiny opaque plastid dots scattered on the surface of the petal, rather than to the anthocyanin sap of the old orchid-pinks. He believed that combining this new type of pink color with the anthocyanin blues will clear away the lavender tinge; he had been working along that line.—Mrs. L. A. Johnson, Avoca, Iowa.

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**YAKIMA, WASH.**



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## IRIS TEST GARDENS

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**YAKIMA, WASHINGTON**

BETTER DWARFS—I still insist that the use of dwarf species such as pumila, mellita and arenaria onto the chamaeiris varieties is the only way to get new colors and patterns and better form into the dwarfs. It is useless to keep on crossing the present named chamaeiris among themselves, as the results will have the same faults and variations of the same old colors as the parents. If enough of these hybrid seedlings are grown, some will be found that will breed, and once this barrier of infertility is passed the next generation will improve, and it will be but a step to really better dwarfs.—*Walter Welch, Middlebury, Ind.*

\* \* \*

SETTING SEED—Use a variety for pollenizer with strong, viable pollen on kinds making good pods; the heavy pollen-bearing father will give better sets by crossing onto kinds that set seed easily. Also, if one that sets seed with difficulty is desired for the pod parent,

strong pollen from distinctly male varieties will increase the chances of getting a "strike."

Lacking experience with the kinds you wish to cross, you can often tell by their formation: one with hardly any swelling beneath the flower is usually dominantly male and will set seed only with difficulty if at all, while one with pronounced swelling is as a rule more female; it will usually set seed readily, though it may or may not have pollen.—*Mrs. R. J. St. Helens, Independence, Kans.*

\* \* \*

POD DROPPING—Pod dropping may be caused by excess moisture; in very wet weather I usually pull off the green spathes that may hold water and cause stem rot or the dropping of pods. In onco hybrids they often drop because the seed has formed as far as possible before the difference in the genetic inheritance of the parents causes it to stop development. In wet weather pods

do not form well from crosses because the rain may wash off the pollen before it has had time to take effect; while hot, dry weather may also keep seed from forming, as the stigmatic lip is so dry that the pollen cannot stick.—*Tell Muhlestein, Provo, Utah.*

\* \* \*

REMOVING BLOOM STALKS—I snap off my bloom stalks for several reasons—neatness for one thing, as an iris patch with old, spent bloom stalks sticking up is anything but attractive. For another, it keeps the strength of the plant from being wasted in setting unwanted seed pods. But chiefly it's to prevent the rot that begins in old stems and works down into the rhizome. I snap the stalk off right at the ground if I can and use a sharp paring knife to trim off any rough edges left by the break. Then I make it a point to see that the smoothly cut surface is free of soil and exposed to the air—sun if possible—until it has dried off.—*Mrs. W. C. Fox, Nampa, Idaho.*

\* \* \*

SEED—SEEDLINGS—MANNERS—I hang my freshly gathered seed in thin cloth bags on a line stretched on a screened porch, where it can dry with no danger of mold. It just stays there until I am ready to plant it.—*Mrs. Editha Hudson, Stella, Neb....* One thing keeps recurring to you as you look through Father David Kinish's blue seedlings: the way Mary Chlotilde, either

as parent or grandparent, cleans the hafts. It does not give remarkable size or sparkle, but the results are pleasing.—*W. M. Keeling, Falls City, Neb....* Who is going to write an article on GARDEN MANNERS? Last season visitors came to my garden, and when they left I found some of my most prized crosses pulled off, despite the fact that they were both tagged and marked.—*Mrs. Willa Largent, McKinney, Texas.*

\* \* \*

PLANTING SEED:—I'm all for cold-frame planting from now on. I don't close the frame tightly but leave it open an inch or so for ventilation. Closed frames in winter cause species iris seed to rot, so I don't want to take chances. Any snow that falls I shovel into the frames on top of the seedbed. As soon as there is some germination I close the frame nights to keep seedlings from getting nipped. They come up so much quicker in frames, have longer to grow and are bigger at transplanting time; so more of them bloom the next year.

I planted some seed in flats stored in an open-sided shed, covered with screening or lath and kept constantly moist until freezing weather, but those in frames showed much earlier germination. Flats and frames are lots easier to weed, too, and don't tie up valuable space for another year while you are waiting for tardy seeds to come up.—*Viola Kallenbach, Mt. Vernon, Ind.*

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## Two Big "W's"

PHILIP G. CORLISS, M.D., (ARIZ.)

In the course of the 20,000-mile trip I took last summer while adding some fifteen thousand Kodachrome slides to the sets which I loan to garden clubs, etc., I visited the extensive iris fields of two growers who bid fair to become giants in the iris world. It is my hope that a brief description of the plantings of Allen Wild, in the Midwest, and Emil Wittman, in the East, will suggest equally rewarding visits by other members of the AIS to their fields next season.



## ALLEN WILD

Mr. Allen Wild, with his genial wife, daughter, and son, Jim, operates the large flower business known as "Gilbert H. Wild and Son" of Sarcoxie, Missouri. The iris was at peak bloom the last week in May. Besides an exhibition garden on the grounds of the office and packing house, there were several fields containing many acres of the best iris varieties. The Sass and Whiting introductions were particularly outstanding, but nearly all of our leading hybridizers were well represented.

Visitors during the iris season will have the added pleasure of seeing the world's largest peony field in full bloom. This field contains one hundred solid acres of peonies, and is augmented by other fields which bring the total peony planting to one hundred and thirty-five acres. Many SCORES of THOUSANDS of DOZENS of peonies, cut in tight bud, were being shipped from cold storage for the Memorial Day business.

The Wilds feature *hemerocallis*, in addition to iris and peonies. They introduce all of Mr. LeMoine Bechtold's varieties, and are now introducing some new things for Mrs. Hugh Lester (*Lady Bountiful*) and other hybridizers.

## EMIL WITTMAN

Another large-scale grower is Emil Wittman, of Clifton, New Jersey, successor to Robert Wayman. His fields are located just off U.S. Highway 6, on the New Jersey side of the Hudson River, opposite New York. He has an exhibition garden unequalled in size in the East, to my knowledge. The best of the old varieties are represented, along with the newest and finest introductions. Mr. Wittman visits the gardens of leading hybridizers frequently during the iris season, and has spared no expense to add the very best things to his collection. In his extensive *hemerocallis* plantings, too, are many seedlings which he has purchased outright for exclusive introduction.

Mr. Wittman is enthusiastic, and he has abandoned a large retail florist business to devote his energies exclusively to growing plants for his catalog. He has always had one of the largest assortments of *Kaempferi* iris, and I shall never forget the steaming day I photographed them in color for my slide sets! Mrs. Wittman literally saved my life with gallons of cold fruit drinks. The things we do in pursuit of our hobbies! But, as Vivian Christensen recently wrote me, what a wonderful world it would be if everyone loved flowers as we do! And to all flower lovers, I heartily recommend a visit this spring to the fields of Emil Wittman or Gilbert H. Wild and Son.

# ***See them in bloom!***

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Kaempferi  
Siberian  
Spurias  
Miniature  
Louisiana  
Hybrids*



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## **Tall Bearded in Louisiana**

MRS. W. R. MATHEWS, (LA.)

*Louisiana iris fanciers are excusably excited over their swamp Cinderellas that have become garden princesses. But there are also tall bearded irises grown to perfection in the state—especially in Shreveport, a beautiful city which will be host to the AIS Annual Meeting in 1951. Mrs. Mathews is a discriminating gardener who grows a great variety of plants on the extensive grounds of her Shreveport home. Here are some of her notes and comments recorded during the 1949 season.—Ed.*

Despite the threatened tragedy from an 8-degree temperature the first of last February with all iris in growth, Shreveport gardeners enjoyed an exceptionally good season—and I find in my iris journal a post-season note: “Hereafter, do less stewing about the weather preceding iris time.”

After the frenzied rush of the bloom season, and then enjoying it again from our notes, there is always a small list of varieties holding such strong appeal in our memories that we would not be without them or we must acquire them to live happily hereafter. The following varieties, observed here in Shreveport and compared and enjoyed again at last year’s Annual Meeting in Portland, make a list that I shall consider good iris for a long time.

Dr. Loomis’ magnificent pure white Spanish Peaks would seem the ultimate in white iris—tall, strong, well branched stem; a large flower of thick substance with pure white haft and beard and beautiful flower balance. I saw many good white iris here and in Portland; yet this to me, is the loveliest. However, Admiral Nimitz (Graves), with slightly flaring falls, thick substance and glowing beard, would be a “must have.” Mr. Milliken’s white Dixie Belle is well named—the most ruffled iris I have seen. At first glance it appears to be thin and fragile; surprisingly, it is in good condition at the end of the third day. The unusual amount of ruffling of both falls and standards makes it distinctive.

Three varieties of the luscious, mouth-watering pinkish class, so beautiful planted with cream varieties: Bird of Dawning (Sass) grew tall with well spaced branching and had flowers of the palest blush





Caldwell photo

**IRISES BESIDE THE MAGNOLIAS**—Tall bearded varieties in a choice selection grow tall and strong in the Shreveport garden of Mr. Ed Dickinson, where many of Mrs. Mathews' notes were taken.

pink with good substance and balance. Salmonette (Sass) had lovely pink buds and a brilliant beard; our sun, however, was too hot for it by the second day. Saluskin (Nelson) made unusually lush foliage and well branched stalks over four feet high, with flowers a pale pink and a beautiful tangerine beard.

The blue iris I would go hungry to have are: Helen McGregor, which grows over three feet here... flowers that pale shade so complimentary to other colors... almost horizontal falls slightly curled up around the edges... a lovely, clean haft. Chivalry (Wills) is a tall, deep blue with crisp, flaring falls slightly waved and standards ruffled... very good flower proportion and good branching. Blue Valley (Smith) is a very clean medium blue with horizontal falls, clean haft, white beard, well domed standards. Prof. Jory's Blue Elegance was very lovely here; for an iris with its parentage the flower balance was especially good... very broad hafts with a pale beard... style branches unusually broad; branching fair.



Mr. Hall's Cherie would receive my vote for the best pink. It was good in Shreveport, and after all the pinks we saw in Portland it is still my choice, although we did see many lovely pinks. Radiation (Hall) received almost as much acclaim as Cherie. The heavy substance, good form and brilliant beard, plus a faint violet flush over the pink bloom, make it distinctive.

Clear, clean yellows are especially desirable in the iris border. The following four are most outstanding in my memory: Golden Ruffles (Taylor)—so tall (over four feet), with large, well proportioned ruffled flowers . . . deep golden yellow and a clean haft. Marion Vaughn (Smith) is a clean, pure pale yellow with a white area at end of the beard . . . especially good branching. Mattie Gates (Sass)—a very bright lemon yellow with the cleanest haft I have noted on a yellow iris. I do realize that Marion Vaughn and Mattie Gates are very similar, and if one could decide which is better, only that one would be absolutely necessary; otherwise, both varieties add to a discriminating collection. Milliken's Spring Sunshine is a lovely addition to this color class . . . a very tall, well branched pale yellow. The flower is large and well balanced, with good substance. The haft, of a deeper shade of yellow, is clean; the beard is white.

Red Majesty (Douglas)—without benefit of color charts I call a bright rosy red, and add that catalogue descriptions do not do it justice . . . a faint flush of violet at the haft, which is bronzed with a small amount of striation—not enough to be offensive. It has very good flower balance and good branching.

Selah (Nelson) is an especially lovely lavender with a clean, bright yellow haft; substance and flower balance fair. Growing over three feet tall, this to the right of pinkish Saluskin (Nelson) and in front of Bird of Dawning (Sass) was a sight to see.

No matter how good an iris may be, if the haft is dirty or heavily striated it is slightly marred for me—with two exceptions: DeForest's Color Carnival would be just another pleasing deep pink variety without the startling violet striation which covers the haft. This sets it apart and makes it distinctive; it is one iris variety to be enjoyed as a single, well grown specimen against a green background. I should think a large clump of these stripes would be somewhat frustrating. Cordovan (Kleinsorge) is almost impossible of description with its brilliant, yet rich subdued color of copper-oxblood . . . thick, flaring falls with haft covered by thread-like lines so close and even that a pleasing pattern is formed to lend beauty to the flower.

Amandine (Douglas) is a deep cream—so crisp, so thick, so clean, with fine flower balance and splendid branching . . . one of the most

floriferous varieties . . . would be a "must have" to the smallest collection.

The necessity of the very best culture to produce the full beauty of bearded iris may be readily observed by planting a Helen McGregor with a trowel in the perennial border and the same variety in a deeply prepared, well fertilized iris bed. Indeed, culture is so important that if I were a hybridizer-dealer I should be inclined to say:

"My good iris customer—in addition to your check, you must give me your word of honor that my new introduction will have the best spot in your garden, with the best of soil preparation, or . . . I'll keep my iris and go hungry!" And I probably would.

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## *Society's Directors Meet in Chicago*

American Iris Society Directors held their winter meeting on November 5 and 6, 1949, at the Palmer House Hotel in Chicago. In attendance were President Guy Rogers, Directors, Robert E. Allen, Sam Caldwell, Franklin Cook, Geddes Douglas, David Hall, Harold Knowlton, E. Greig Lapham, W. J. Moffat, Matthew Riddle, Carl Schirmer and Jesse Wills and guests W. F. Scott, Jr., and Walter Welch.

Complete minutes of the meeting are available on request from the Secretary at the Nashville office. Because of their general interest, the BULLETIN offers a summary of actions taken by the Directors:

Authorized the Central Office to publish and mail to members a complete but unofficial list of the Annual Awards for iris varieties, immediately after the judges' ballots have been tabulated, such list to be subject to confirmation by the Directors before official publication in the October BULLETIN.

Directed that the names of new members be published in the next BULLETIN following their enrollment.

Established a Board of Counselors, composed of the Regional Vice-Presidents, to advise the Directors of opinion trends within the Society, to offer recommendations for action, and to act as representatives of the Society to the members.

Delegated to Dr. Franklin Cook the writing of a pamphlet on the organization of the AIS, with particular reference to the duties of the various officers and the setting up of local iris societies.

Approved By-Law changes for submission to the membership on (1) a Family Membership in the Society at \$5.00, (2) changing the Central Office fiscal year to coincide with the calendar year, (3) setting the winter meetings of the Directors for the first half of November, (4) changing membership in the AIS from a calendar year basis to a 12-month period beginning with receipt of membership application, (5) advancing nomination of new Directors from September 1 to August 1 each year.

Gave custody of the Farr Memorial Library to the Southern California Iris Society, for placement in a suitable depository.

Confirmed the election of Messrs. Marion Walker and Joe W. House as new Directors of the Society.

Adopted a policy of accepting registrations and records of introduction of



irises from England only when submitted through The Iris Society and from Australia and New Zealand only when submitted through the Australian and New Zealand Iris Society.

Reaffirmed the \$1.00 registration fee now being charged.

Discussed plans for a 1950 membership drive.

Approved the publication of a 1950 Check List, to consist of a compilation, re-printing and binding of reports of the Registrar appearing in BULLETINS from 1940 to 1949, inclusive.

Heard a report from Mr. Allen on the American Horticultural Congress held in New York on Oct. 30, 31 and Nov. 1. Approved the AIS's joining the American Horticultural Council.

Heard a comprehensive analysis of color theory and the various color charts now available, as presented by Mr. Allen. Adopted a new iris color classification proposed by Mr. Allen.

Authorized the Editor to make experimental changes in the BULLETIN printing involving offset processes.

Accepted the resignation of Registrar Charles E. F. Gersdorff, but with sincere thanks for his many years of exacting service so faithfully performed that the current records of iris registrations are acknowledged as the most complete of all such reports maintained by the various plant societies.

Approved the appointment of Mr. Robert E. Allen as the new Registrar and Recorder.

Approved the appointment of a committee (Messrs. Douglas, Schirmer and House) with authority to appoint a new Exhibition Committee Chairman and expedite the functioning of the exhibition program.

Established a new region 21, effective Jan. 1, 1950, comprising Nebraska, Iowa, North and South Dakota.

Confirmed the appointment by President Rogers of the following new Regional Vice-Presidents: Region 2, M. J. Brownell; Reg. 3, J. C. Lyster; Reg. 5, Mrs. William T. Wood; Reg. 6, Mrs. George D. Robinson; Reg. 7, Mrs. T. B. Revell, Jr.; Reg. 9, G. J. Donahue; Reg. 13, Mrs. A. P. Haase; Reg. 15, Carl C. Taylor; Reg. 21, Mrs. Ralph Ricker. Confirmed reappointment of other RVPs.

Authorized the Secretary to work out with foreign societies a system of exchange on membership fees approximately equal to that prevailing before devaluation of foreign moneys.

Named Boston as the place of the 1953 Annual Meeting.

Adopted a system of awards for dwarf bearded irises and a system of points to aid judges in rating them, as proposed by Mr. Walter Welch in a paper to be published in a forthcoming issue of the BULLETIN. Appointed Mr. Welch to work with the Awards Committee on the inauguration of these new awards.

Approved the conduct of Regional Performance Ratings by RVP's in regions desiring them, under plans devised by Dr. L. F. Randolph, Chairman of the Scientific Committee.

Heard a report from Mr. Allen on an authoritative new classification of the genus *Iris*, to be available soon from Dr. Lawrence, of the Bailey Hortorium staff. Approved the acceptance and publication of this classification.

Elected the following slate of officers to serve through 1950: President, Guy Rogers; Vice-President and Chairman of Awards Committee, Harold W. Knowlton; Secretary, Geddes Douglas; Treasurer, Carl Schirmer; Registrar and Recorder, Robert E. Allen; Editor, Sam Caldwell.

Adopted a resolution of appreciation for the services to the Society of Messrs. Lapham and Hall, retiring Directors.

Adopted a budget for operation of the Central Office in 1950.

# Iris Time in the Rockies

NINA N. WINEGAR, (COLO.)

*R. V. P., Region 20*

Our first trip of the 1949 season was planned for Pueblo on May 22, but the season there was unusually late and, much to our regret, this trip had to be cancelled, since the following week end was already scheduled for Boulder.

We set out for Long's gardens early Sunday morning, May 29. Here bloom was in its prime and the gardens were never more beautiful. Nestled safely against the protecting foot-hills of the Rockies, the great masses of fresh lovely color made a picture of great beauty. Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hall, of Denver, and Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Lincoln, of Pueblo, were already in the garden when we arrived and many more of our Region 20 members followed throughout the day.

Russet Wings (Wills '46) was making an impressive display in copper, gold and russet. Southern Snow (Beck '47) was out and is a pleasing flower of rounded form and good quality set off by lemon yellow on the haft and an orange beard. Katherine Fay and New Snow, from Fay, were both in good bloom and are both very fine white iris. We had missed seeing Spanish Peaks *en masse* at Pueblo but it was giving a very good account of itself in smaller quantities at Long's and was, as usual, outstanding. Sharkskin (Douglas '42) and Snowflurry (Rees '39), older whites of excellent quality, were very good.

Cloud Castle (Graves '44), in pale wisteria blue, has very great charm of form and texture and is nicely ruffled. Other beautiful blues were prominent—Lake Shannon (DeForest '45), Lake George and Blue Valley (Smith '45 and '47 respectively), Chivalry (Wills '44), Sylvia Murray (Norton '44), Azure Skies (Pattison '43), Helen McGregor (Graves '46) and Blue Rhythm (Whiting '45). Lake Shannon and Blue Valley are very blue and both carry the darker blue veining from Great Lakes. Blue Valley has exceptionally nice ruffled form. Sylvia Murray, also from Great Lakes, has greater purity of color, a lighter tone and a smoothly tailored form. It carries something of the sheen and glisten of Shining Waters, its other parent, but its substance is heavy and its texture is very smooth and firm. It is one of the best of the lighter blues. Helen McGregor is a good subject for the front of the border as it is not tall. The exquisite beauty of its freshly opened flowers is near perfect for a close-up view but it does need partial shade to protect the color, and its garden value de-



depends upon this. Blue Rhythm is outstanding for garden value as well as lovely to see close up. It is luxuriant in growth, flowering abundantly with many buds opening on well branched stalks. Its depth of color and its heavy substance together with its fine height help it to fill an important spot in the garden for a long season. Blue Rhythm even fades gracefully, like a beautiful lady with gently silvering hair.

Red Majesty (Douglas '46) was new among many other fine reds. It has noticeable yellow at the center of the flower and a yellow beard. The flowers have good substance and size and many blooms were out on well branched stems. Ranger and Solid Mahogany are both good reliable reds, Ranger in a brighter, more crimson tone. Garden Glory is supreme in smooth tailoring and finish, perfect to front a planting where a close-up brings out added beauty. Red Torch is another nicely tailored smooth flower that bears well the close inspection a front position gives. While its standards are a rich golden bronze, its extremely smooth, velvety and very flaring falls are the brightest red I have ever seen in an iris. Campfire Glow and Gypsy Rose, newer Whiting reds, are both outstanding and add real distinction to the garden. In much darker tones are Master Charles, Sable and Indiana Night, invaluable for the depth and richness they add to a planting. Black Forest, the darkest of all and more of a blue-black, is good front material also.

As a contrast to these deeper tones were the more delicate but not less lovely pastels of Premier Peach (Hall '46), New Horizon (Fay '46), Barbara Luddy (Lapham '47) and Cherie (Hall '47). Of these, Cherie stood out for its pure smooth color and purer pink. Its form is excellent, charmingly ruffled and flaring, and its substance is heavy. It holds up well in the garden. New Horizon is very lovely, with ivory and peach in its nice blending of color. Its standards are darker than the falls, which adds interest. It has heavy substance, too, but like many of these very delicate colors it could profit from some overhead protection from brilliant sunshine. Premier Peach and Barbara Luddy are considerably more "peachy" in their coloring. Chantilly, Lynn Langford and Fantasy, all from Hall, add nice tones of lavender to these delicate colors, Fantasy being much the most outstanding of the three.

#### PEAK BLOOM IN COLORADO!

Top: J. F. Lincoln, LeMoine Bechtold, Richard Hall and Lynn, Mrs. Lincoln, Everett L. Cline and Everett Long in a corner of Long's gardens at Boulder, May 29.

Center: Later the same day in the Roy P. Rogers garden, also in Boulder. Mrs. Rogers, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Cline and Mr. Bechtold admire the colorful flowers.

Bottom: Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Lincoln in the garden of Dr. P. A. Loomis, Colorado Springs, on June 12. (Pictures are from Kodachromes by Mrs. Winegar.)







There were many fine yellows in the long rows: Berkeley Gold, evenly flowering; Ola Kala, always showy, and Cloth of Gold, superb in rich yellow with flaring form and good size, height and branching. Goldbeater, from Kleinsorge, is another fine clear, clean yellow of good size. Among the lighter yellows were Amandine (Douglas '46) in cool cream and lemon, nicely formed and ruffled, with good substance, and Desert Song (Fay '46), another finely formed cream, with a butterscotch tinge, wavy wide petals and heavy substance. Crystal Gold (Sass Bros. '46), an Elsa Sass—Golden Fleece cross, gives us a new flower in lemon-yellow and white. Carlsbad Caverns (Wilson '46) is a huge ruffled lemon and white bicolor in reverse. Also in 1946, but very different from all other yellows, came Mrs. Whiting's Baghdad. It is rather late in flowering but is well worth waiting for. Baghdad is a most artistic flower, very good for a front position where its form and finish may be appreciated.

The array of blends is impressive at Long's. Outstanding always are those in the series from Dr. Kleinsorge—Chamois, Cascade Splendor, Bryce Canyon, Auburn, General Patton, Canyon Road (a smooth gold, copper and tan blend deeper in tone than Chamois), Good News, Gypsy, Mexico and Howard Weed, to name only a few. They are too well known to need description but there is always a look of quality about them in smoothly blended color often with a metallic sheen, good form with wide petals frequently ruffled, and strong substance. Colorful blends from other growers attracted attention also: Rainbow Room from Jake Sass ('46); Arab Chief, Three Oaks and glowing Mexican Magic from Mrs. Whiting; Melodist and Treva from DeForest. These and a vast array of plicatas that defy description, plus the glowing orange of Rocket all emphasize a new reality of color undreamed of a few short years ago.

We were glad to pause in midmorning for refreshing drinks being served on a large enclosed porch. During the brief absence of her mother little Miss Margie (pronounced with a hard "g") took over, and with complete charm and poise helped everyone find his own favorite drink from a large assortment of chilled soft drinks. She was quick to point out the special merits of her own favorite beverage if one hesitated. A little miss of four years with personality plus is the little lady of the house of Long.

We went back for another look before departing, with the feeling we always have upon leaving Long's, that there were as many things which we did not see as those we did. No one can possibly do justice to so much in one visit.

After a very pleasant late lunch at the Boulderado Hotel as guests of Mr. LeMoine Bechtold with Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln, of Pueblo, and

Mr. Everett L. Cline, of Denver, we then went on to the Roy Rogers iris garden on West Arapahoe in Boulder. Mr. and Mrs. Rogers are in the process of building a very lovely garden here with series of stone retaining walls and evergreen hedges against the rugged rise of Flagstaff Mountain. They are completely sheltered and have established a fine iris garden overlooking the plains about Boulder and surrounded by a bearing peach orchard. The fertile mountain soil, with an ever-ready supply of water from a large irrigation ditch constantly flowing at the back, provides an ideal situation which they have taken full advantage of, for nowhere have we ever seen iris more splendidly grown. We tried to get some pictures of the pleasant vistas but early shadows from the hills were already creeping down, making photography difficult and the result was anything but the "sharp" pictures Mr. Caldwell talks about.

#### "OPEN HOUSE" IN DENVER

On Saturdays, May 28 and June 4, local gardeners held "open house" for visiting back and forth. The chief objection to such an arrangement is that one finds it difficult to get away to see other gardens, but there was much pleasant visiting although heavy rains and cloudy skies held back late gardens considerably and often spoiled bloom in earlier gardens. Between showers and visitors I did get to see Mr. Cline's garden where he grows a really great number of fine newer iris with a few older favorites in a manner many gardeners might envy. While they are spaced closely to make room for so many, they are so clean and well looked after that there is never a bit of leaf spot or poor foliage in the entire garden. The massed colors make a grand display and each year they are thinned to make room for more new ones. A clump of Easter Bonnet is always very good here, getting just enough overhead light shade to keep its color fresh throughout its blooming period, making a very colorful spot in the garden.

We made a very hurried stop at Mr. P. H. Graham's and Mr. R. E. Ewalt's gardens where the usual perfection of upkeep is always evident, and were again impressed with the good arrangement and the practical combination of iris with other material that dominates these two very lovely small gardens.

We found an interesting seedling at Mr. and Mrs. John W. Newman's iris gardens in north Denver where they grow a nice collection of named varieties and a number of seedlings. It was Mr. Newman's No. 581, a *plicata* of Blue Shimmer's coloring with a heavy pattern of blue (not purple) on a background of white. There was an attractive band of blue down the center of the falls. It had good growing characteristics and was better in form than Blue Shimmer.



We had stopped to pick up Mr. Bechtold on the way to Long's and had seen his garden then. Mr. Bechtold grows many of the fine newer iris and the garden was full of fine lilacs and lilies. He has recently purchased a beautiful new home in Cherry Hills with plenty of ground to expand his garden which we expect will become one of the show places about Denver.

Several trips were necessary to follow the new things as they came out in the Richard Halls' garden, since most of them were first-year plants which did not provide a long season of bloom, and heavy rains were frequent also. However we did get notes on the following which should be considered on the basis of one-year plants:

Barbara Luddy (Lapham '47)—Quite a deep pink with a bit of ivory about the haft and heavy tangerine beard. The flower has nice form and substance.

Illinois Sunshine (Faught '46)—Really outstanding, a very pure bright yellow, large and tall with good form and substance.

Mattie Gates (Sass Bros. '46)—A large flower of Elsa Sass and Golden Fleece coloring with very wide petals.

Black Forest (Schreiner '45)—Exceedingly dark with a satiny texture.

Pink Cameo (Fay '46)—A very light pink but pure in color with tailored form.

Katherine Fay (Fay '45)—Always shows up well; a very beautiful white.

Gulf Stream (Fay '46)—A large deep violet with dark beard, branching low with flowers well spaced.

Fire Dance (Fay '47)—A truly impressive plicata with the rich red color of Firecracker patterned on deep yellow, but the striking thing about it was the really beautiful pattern—not just an over-all figured plicata, but the color was in a definite and most effective heavy design on the falls. The standards were richly colored; the substance was very heavy.

Desert Song (Fay '46)—Very lovely again, a wide ruffled flower of heavy substance and exceedingly beautiful form on tall, well branched stalks.

Cool Lemonade (Muhlestein '47)—A clear lemon self, very refreshing.

Sky Ranger (Hall '48)—A spectacular flower of medium lavender-blue color and large size. It has beautifully ruffled form with wide petals on tall, well branched stems. The color is very much like that of Chivalry but it looks like an excellent grower to produce so well on a young plant.

Chivalry (Wills '44)—Had an unusually good stalk of bloom here and was tall and lovely.

Cherie (Hall '45)—Very outstanding, without doubt one of the best of all the pastel pinks. It was withstanding well the heavy rains. Its substance is strong and its color clean and smooth; the light ruffling and flaring form are most attractive and the well branched stems hold many buds.

Courtier (Hall '44)—Deeper in color than Cherie or any other pink that I have seen. It has carrying quality in the garden. The standards are wide and nicely domed. The falls seemed to cup a little which might not be true of an older clump or in bright sunny weather. The form and substance are not as good as that of Cherie but the color is exquisite.

Fantasy (Hall '44)—One of the most attractive of the Hall iris, in my opinion. It is not too tall for the front of the border where the charm of its flowers and buds can be fully enjoyed. Its rose-orchid-pink blending of color and ruffled form give it much charm.

Radiation (Hall '48)—A newer, somewhat taller orchid-pink self with possibly a little cleaner color than Fantasy, but, to me, with no greater charm.

Hit Parade (Hall '47)—Tall peach, smaller than Cherie and more peach in tone.

Lake Breeze (Fay '45)—A seedling of Gloriole and very much like it in color but with greatly improved form and very wide ruffled petals and substance that withstood well a really drenching rain.

Burgundy Rose (Hall '46)—I found the other Hall iris more pleasing to me.

Tip Top (Hall '47)—A smaller edition of Minnie Colquitt, but it was on a one-year plant. The coloring and pattern are both very similar to these features in Minnie Colquitt.

Distance (Cook '46)—An exceedingly smooth darkish medium blue self.

Ebony Queen (Sass '47)—A deep black-violet with a dark beard.

Hall seedling 46-23—A pink much like Cherie in color and general characteristics. It was attractive in form and had good substance.

Hi Time—A new Hall iris of very deep apricot color, the deepest in tone that I have seen.

There will be much interest here in these things next season when they may be seen on two-year plants.

#### JUDGES PLEASED AT LOOMIS GARDEN

June 5 was set for the trip to Dr. P. A. Loomis' gardens in Colorado Springs but continued days of heavy downpours had completely ruined the bloom and the trip had to be cancelled. However by



the next week end we ventured to hope that there might be enough late bloom left for the judges to see at least a few things, so we called for permission to see the garden. Dr. Loomis graciously invited us for lunch and expanded the party to include Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln, Pueblo, and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Long, Boulder. Mr. Cline, Mr. Ewalt and Mr. Bechtold were other judges from Denver. We had a very delightful day and found many interesting things to see. Perhaps the most outstanding thing in the garden was the dark Elmohr X Sable seedling that had interested us so much the previous season. It is exceedingly rich and beautiful, very dark in color, a well shaped lustrous flower of heavy substance with much more fire than Sable.

All the light colored Mohrs were unusually marked with color since it was a season of flecking and spotting with so much cool, cloudy weather, but we found this easier to forgive in Mohrs than in other iris. Even Parachute I was heavily marked this year instead of with its usual delicate veining. Parachute II seems a finer flower to me, somewhat more refined in general appearance. Its color was contained in the heart of the flower and its wide flaring ruffled petals were clean and clear. Its substance is heavy and its form is very beautiful, more conventional than in the case of Parachute I, which is typically Mohr in form. There was a large pinkish-buff Mohr seedling which greatly fascinated Mr. Ewalt and which we all liked. It was almost a self, in a blend of color somewhat similar to that found in the falls of Lady Mohr.

Spanish Peaks was superb in large clumps, and there was an array of unusually nice blues, whites and blue-whites. One group, all of one cross, was consistently good throughout, ranging from good clear light and medium blues to pure white. Another distinctive blue-white was one Dr. Loomis called "Blue Throat," which had much blue in the heart of the flower. It had lovely form with wide ruffled petals and good substance. We liked it very much.

We saw here a very interesting deep yellow seedling, No. 45-46, from Mr. Fred DeForest. It had fine width of petals, ruffled standards, good branching, and was very deep in color. We also saw Color Carnival. It might be described as a "shocking pink" with a strong purple blotch on the falls; the name suits it.

Later in the morning we drove to a large seedling plot some distance to the west. Here again was quite an assortment of blues ranging from light to medium dark tones, several of them W-15 crosses. Many were large, with very wide petals, flaring falls and of extra heavy substance and good height.

There were some interesting tawny blends from crosses including Tobacco Road, Red Oak and Bryce Canyon. A red and gold bicolor

that we all liked, rather similar to Mexico, was called Dragonfly. I was fascinated by a very ruffled flower just opening (Snowflurry X Turquoise). Its heavy petals were pure mother-of-pearl on top with the reverse of the petal an entirely different color, a blending of tan and chartreuse similar, again, to that found in the falls of Lady Mohr. I got laughed at for my interest in this one but I hope to see it again.

Soon after we returned to the house we were joined by Mr. and Mrs. Long. Mrs. Loomis was at their Pacific Coast home at La Jolla, but Dr. Loomis was a most delightful host.

After another trip to the seedling garden across town we returned to Denver feeling very fortunate that Colorado had so much to offer in the iris world.

While the emphasis is always on garden visiting during the blooming season, there were other accomplishments in Region 20 in 1949. Membership has more than tripled since early 1948. Our fall auction was very successful, netting us ample funds to run the region without assessments or local dues. Mrs. Whiting gave us a plant of her lovely new Ivory Princess for the "Mystery Iris" at the auction. The size of the rhizomes donated by our commercial growers exceeded anything we had ever seen, proving that there is a practical side also to growing iris in Colorado. Most of us have enough new markers to gloat over along the garden path to brighten the winter and give promise of another pleasant season in 1950.

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#### FALL MEETING IN REGION 18

One hundred and six excited and enthusiastic fans from the far corners of Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri poured into the Pickwick Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri, on the morning of November 19; they packed into a private dining room and from noon until late afternoon enjoyed the program of Region 18's annual Fall Meeting.

Mr. William A. Kolb, president of the Greater Kansas City Iris Society, planned and conducted the meeting, with the help of his efficient committees. Carl Schirmer reported on the AIS Directors' meeting in Chicago, and there were reports from regional officers, including W. F. Scott, Jr., Father David Kinish, Cliff Benson, Ray Rickman and Buryl Harman. Mrs. Fern Irving, John Ohl, Carl Schirmer and Henry Sass spoke as representatives of the region's several states, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Ne-

braska.

An especially pleasant event was the presentation to Father David Kinish of a Life Membership in the AIS; this was done by Carl Schirmer on behalf of Region 18 members and the national organization.

Later there was a showing of the John Ott film, "How to Grow Iris," and after that a program of color slides, including a collection loaned by Miss Eleanor Hill, some excellent shots made in Portland and Denver by Mrs. Angie Gutekunst, a fine group from Ray Rickman—several to prove his contention that Love Story (Sapp) is the finest pink iris yet introduced—and many others.

The ladies' quartette of the Kansas City Garden Club entertained the meeting with two numbers: "To a Wild Rose" and a new song entitled "Lovely Iris," written by Mrs. Jessie Wilson Towner.



# ***In Memoriam***

## **Hans Peter Sass**

Hans Peter Sass, one of the most successful plant breeders in America, has laid down his work. He was born in Alt Duvestedt, Germany, in 1868 and died in Bennington, Nebraska, on September 18, 1949. He studied botany and was interested in propagation from seed before he came to America with his parents in 1884. He bought a small farm near Omaha in 1903 and gave much of his time to growing all kinds of flowers, many of them from seed. By 1912 he had bloomed gladiolus, iris and peony seedlings from his own breeding and a few years later, hemerocallis, lilies and lilacs.

He was a charter member of the American Iris Society and introduced his first iris, Midwest, in 1923. He was one of the first to cross pumila with tall bearded iris, producing the true intermediates, for which he was best known for the next few years. In 1925 he introduced King Tut, which he later considered his most important iris for breeding, but it never received any awards. A seedling from it, Rameses, became very famous and was awarded the Dykes Medal in 1932. He was not discouraged by the lack of awards for his earlier introductions, nor was he spoiled by the steady stream of them which came later. He brought out each new iris in his modest folder with only a line or two of description. Each year brought more H.M. and A.M. awards, and in 1943 his Prairie Sunset was given the Dykes Medal.

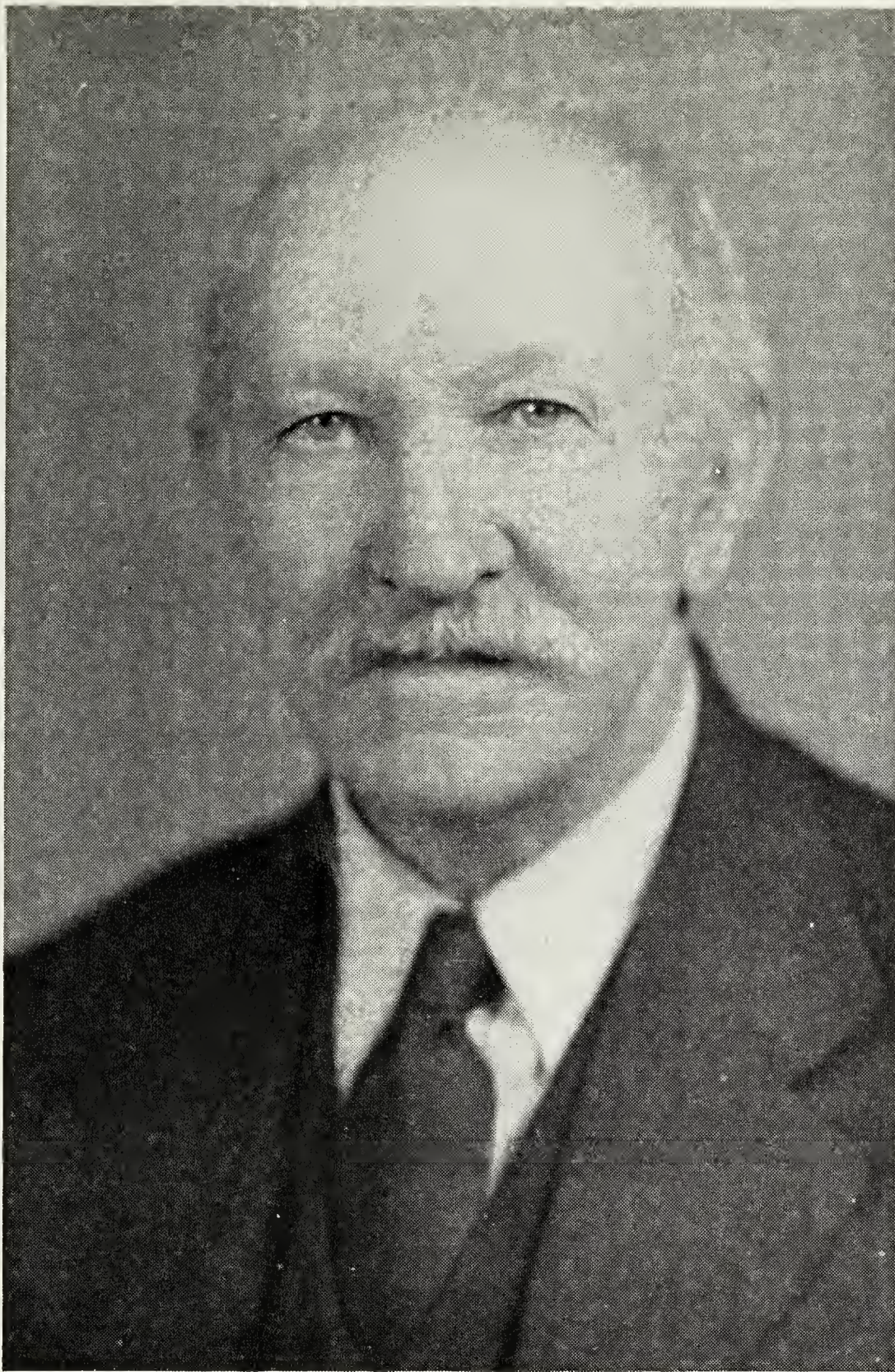
In 1941 he received the Gold Medal for Hybridizing from the American Iris Society. In 1947 he was awarded the Foster Memorial Plaque by The Iris Society of England. President Geoffrey L. Pinkington visited America that year and told him of this award in his garden in Bennington, and it was a great privilege to see the pleasure it gave to both of them. Later he formally presented it to him at the AIS Annual Meeting in Evanston, amid the cheers of all present.

Mr. Sass was very active in his work until a few weeks before his death. He enjoyed the 1949 iris season and made many crosses. His nephew, Henry E. Sass, brought him for his yearly visit to Maple Valley, where he was as keenly interested as ever in the new seedlings, many of which are descendants from his own varieties. With a twinkle in his eye, he carried home a stalk of a new pink one to use the pollen.

How fortunate for him, and for the world, that he was allowed so long and so fruitful a life. His work will never be finished, it will live on in millions of flowers, forever.

—*Agnes Whiting*





HANS PETER SASS

EDITOR'S NOTE: As a matter of historical interest, Mrs. Whiting supplied the following list of H. P. Sass irises. They are named in chronological order. All are tall bearded except where indicated otherwise: Midwest, Autumn King (Re), Kalos (IB), Ultra (IB Re. HM '26), King Tut, Autumn Queen (DB Re), Baldwin, Buto, Eventide, Midgard, Nymph (IB), Prairie Gold (HM '26), Redwing, Purple Haze (HM '27), Doxa (IB), Churchmouse, Old Gold (IB), Omaha, Nebraska, Euphony, Ragusa (IB), Rameses (HM '31, DM '32), Sungod, Peaches, Cyrus (IB, HM '32), Clara Noyes (HM '31, AM '32), Irma Pollock, Thuratus, Blue Hill, King Juba (HM '32), Midwest Pride, Waconda (HM '31), Laddie Boy



(DB), Rose Mist (DB), Sunny Day (Spur., HM '36), No-We-Ta, Blue Waves, Al-Lu-We, Blue Charm (Sib), Alice Horsefall (IB), Golden Light (HM '36), El Tovar (HM '32, AM '33), September Skies (IB Re), Frost Queen (IB Re), Imperial Blush (HM '36), Oriana (HM '33), Eleanor Roosevelt (IB Re, HM '36, AM '37), Gentius (IB, HM '36), Susa (IB, HM '36), Southland (IB Re, HM '36, AM '39), Autumn Haze, (Re), Aberlard (IB, HM '36), Ta-Wa (IB, Taran-tella, Snowking (HM '36, AM '37), Avondale (HM '36), Golden Bow (IB, HM '36), Ballet Girl, Amenti, Anitola, Anitra (HM '37), City of Lincoln (HM '37, AM '39), Siegfried (HM '36, AM '38), Papio (IB), Cosette (IB, HM '36), Khorasan, Midwest Gem (HM '47), Ossar, Sandalwood, Miss Aravilla, Miss Camelia, Tiffany (HM '38), Nassak, Orloff (HM '37), Elsa Sass (HM '39, AM '41), Bal-mung (HM '40), Giralda, Matula (HM '39), Patricia (HM '40), Amelia Earhart (Sib), Prairie Sunset (HM '37, AM '41, DM '43), Ruth Pollock (HM '39, AM '41), Royal Coach (HM '39), Autumn Flame (Re), Persian Prince (HM '42), Rose Top (HM '43), Minnie Colquitt (HM '43, AM '45), Snow Velvet (HM '42), Garden Flame (HM '40, AM '43), Grace Ballard, Green Shadows, Moon Ray, Peachblow, Chocolate Cream, Fontanelle, Red Torch (HM '47), Banded Beauty, Prairie Flame.

### Thomas Nesmith

Since the birth of our Society in 1920, New England has been a center of great iris interest with frequent garden visits and iris meetings. Few New Englanders, during the past twenty years, have realized the role played in making these events so successful, by a man who until 1946 was not even a member of the Society.

It is no more than natural that the affairs of the Society, particularly in the early days, were shaped by men from this section. Though he never held an office in the Society, his advice was so freely asked and so freely given that our present position of affluence and prosperity is in no small way due to his sagacity and wisdom.

Cheerful, courteous, friendly, Tom Nesmith was a man whose un-failing good humor won him friends wherever he went. His unwillingness to ever compromise a truth or a principle won him the esteem of every friend he made.

He was a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and until his retirement a year ago, had been connected with the Massachusetts Department of Public Safety for a quarter of a century. His sudden passing on November 9 in Lowell, Mass., came as a great shock to all who knew him.

—Geddes Douglas

### Thomas A. Williams

Thomas A. Williams, known to millions of gardeners as the "Old Dirt Dobber" of the CBS "Garden Gate" radio program, died in Nash-

ville last November 29 after a brief illness.

A long-time iris enthusiast, he was one of the pioneer group which back in the twenties began to establish Nashville as a leading center for tall bearded iris culture. Though his love of plants covered many kinds, he retained always a warm regard for irises, as evidenced by the splendid plantings in his beautiful garden near Brentwood, Tennessee. He and Mrs. Williams and daughter Peg were interested for a number of years in iris breeding, and several of their originations now appear in the catalogues of our dealers.

Many AIS members who have attended annual meetings of the Society in Nashville will remember walking over the spacious landscaped grounds of the Williams place, for it was always a feature attraction on the programs. Now they will miss the smile of the "Old Dirt Dobber" whose kindly personality radiated even through his voice to such an extent that thousands of unseen radio listeners regarded him as a personal friend.

—Sam Caldwell

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#### BOOKS AVAILABLE IN CALIFORNIA

The Southern California Iris Society has recently named Miss Archie MacLean, 3057 Lorain Road, San Gabriel, California, as the curator of the Farr Memorial Library, which is now in her care. Persons wishing to take advantage of the various works on iris should contact Miss MacLean.

The American Iris Society has recently added to the collection its publication, *The Iris—An Ideal Hardy Perennial*, and also *Irises for Every Garden*, by Sydney B. Mitchell, and *Irises—Their Culture and Selection*, by Gwendolyn Anley.

\* \* \*

**SEED CULTURE IN KANSAS**—I plant iris seed in October or November, making sure the soil goes into the winter moist, and I keep it that way till spring. I plant very thick, as I believe this helps the seedlings to come through; they have to be transplanted anyway, when still small. I plant them 1/2 to 3/4 inch deep, and last year lightened the soil with Vermiculite, with which I also covered them, though I don't know whether it did any real good or not.

If you don't have a coldframe, the next best thing is to take two frames of glass sash and set them up in an inverted V-shape over the row. A wire bent over the tops, extending down about 2 inches over the outside will hold the glass up even in a hard wind. Use a hook at each end to hold them together. I use this method to good advantage here, stringing out several sash over a whole row and leaving the ends open for ventilation.—*John Ohl, Wichita, Kans.*

\* \* \*

**FERTILIZER PAYS OFF**—Perhaps you will be interested in my experiments with fertilizer. In January, 1948, I divided a bed of 150 Frieda Mohr in halves and each half into thirds. One half I left without fertilizer; the other I fertilized one section each with rabbit, cow and horse manure. In October I put oyster shells on 25, seaweed on 25, and guano on the last 25. You should have seen the bloom on all 75 of them! Newly set plants, and nearly every one of them bloomed, while only 2 of the unfertilized ones bloomed at all.—*Mrs. Melva Moon, Santa Barbara, Calif.*



## *An AIS Favorite Writes a Book*

IRIS FOR EVERY GARDEN, by Sydney B. Mitchell, M. Barrows & Company, Inc., \$3.00.

*Reviewed by Jesse E. Wills.*

This very welcome book, by Professor Mitchell, meets a real need. Most of us have had the experience of having some gardener just becoming interested in irises ask us the names of books that would supply more information about them, and it was always embarrassing to say that all such books were both out of print and obsolete. Of course for the last two years the Society's own manual, *THE IRIS—AN IDEAL HARDY PERENNIAL*, has been available, but this and professor Mitchell's volume do not compete but rather supplement each other. His book is aimed at a wider and somewhat different audience. Also, it must be admitted that a book by one person can possess a better balance and show more uniformity and smoothness than any symposium.

Needless to say, Dr. Mitchell is eminently qualified to perform the task he set himself. He has both witnessed and participated in the whole development of modern irises in this country. He has had experience in growing irises in both the East and the West as a general gardener, as a breeder, and even for a short time as a commercial grower. Through his own breeding work, which has been happily resumed, and through his contacts with other growers all over the country, he is thoroughly up to date on all that goes on and yet he has a profound knowledge, which not many now share with him, of what went on before the American Iris Society was founded and in its early days. He speaks with authority.

As Dr. Mitchell states in his preface, his book is written from the point of view of the gardener, not the botanist, and is designed to appeal to the general gardener who may be interested in irises along with other flowers as well as to the iris specialist. I feel that he has succeeded very well in his aims. It can be a beginner's book for a person who knows little or nothing about irises, yet the most experienced grower or breeder also will enjoy it and want it in his library even though he may know in a general way most of what it contains. Professor Mitchell writes with clarity and charm. He is easy to read, yet manages to be very thorough as he covers all the important points.

The first chapter covers the various growing regions of the country, section by section, with suggestions as to the irises that will do well in each. The next chapter takes the reader on an iris world

tour which touches on all the more important members of the iris family in their places of origin. Then the major classes are taken up group by group: first the bulbous irises, then the crested irises, then the beardless irises of America, which in turn are followed by the beardless irises of the Old World. This covers half the book. The remaining six chapters are devoted to bearded irises, where the usual iris grower's main interest lies. There is a chapter on their history, another chapter on culture, propagation, and disease, and a very interesting and helpful chapter on breeding and raising from seed. Then comes a chapter on planning the garden with bearded irises, covering such points as color combinations and plants and shrubs to use with irises. The eleventh chapter, on "What Makes a Choice Variety," gives an interesting and detailed discussion of the points that make an iris outstanding or popular either in the view of the fancier or the general public. The last chapter deals with those irises that belong in a sense to the bearded group but which are also so different: the oncos, the regelias, and the hybrids from them.

Although he has been a California gardener for many years now, Professor Mitchell has written a book designed for growers of all sections. Only once or twice is the California background especially noticeable. The treatment of disease is rather short, conveying the idea that California growers are somewhat blessed, with rot infrequent and the borer entirely absent. He does not even mention bacterial leaf blight, which has become such a serious problem in Eastern gardens, although he does mention "pineappling," a new disease which I had previously heard of only in Texas but which apparently exists in California also. The trouble here, however, is that we really don't know any more about iris disease or pests, or what to do about them, than we did twenty-five years ago. I think other Eastern growers besides myself might also question this statement: "Possibly because of changes in the garden flower, bumble bees no longer find an entrance, for iris flowers appear to be rarely crossed by insects in the garden." The bumble bees still set a great many chance pods in Nashville.

The book has a nice set of color plates, which are bound together in the beginning, and there are good line drawings throughout by Tom Craig. There are appendices giving the American Iris Society Symposium for 1948, both numerically and by color classification, a suggested sequence of irises that can furnish bloom throughout most of the year, sources of information about irises, and sources of plants which supplies a partial list of iris growers, stressing particularly those that might furnish the least known species and varieties. There is also a good index.



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